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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
(ILGWU)

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12-15-1944

## Justice (Vol. 26, Iss. 23)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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### Keywords

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

### Comments

*Justice* was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

# UNITED ILGWU

INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE OF GARMENT WORKERS

Vol. XXVI, No. 23.

Jersey City, N. J., December 15, 1944

Price 10 Cents

## HOUSE OF HEALTH OPENED IN FALL RIVER AFTER TEN YEARS

The simultaneous achievement of two major triumphs was celebrated by the ILGWU in Fall River, Mass., on Dec. 8. It signified the tenth anniversary of the union in that part of New England, coupled with the formal opening of the Fall River Union Health Center.

The ceremonies were held in a spirit of wartime simplicity, but the occasion was charged with deep emotion at the attainment of two triumphant victories that have contributed so profoundly to the welfare of the garment workers in the Fall River area.

Several hundred members and guests attended the celebration, which included a banquet served in the union's headquarters. Impressive tribute was paid to the large group of members who have remained with the union throughout the ten years of its existence. Their faith and perseverance during a critical period were hailed as the foundation-stones of the union's present strength and its future prospects.

Pres. David Dubinsky held a contingent of prominent ILGWU guests who assembled to honor their Fall River co-workers. Among them were Executive Secretary Frederick F. Umhey, Director David Ginzburg of the Cotton Garment Department, Vice Pres. Philip Kramer of the Boston Joint Board, Vice Pres. Julius Hochman of the New York Dress Joint Board, Supervisor William Ross who was the pioneer manager of the Fall River local, and many other officials of the Cotton Garment Department, which has jurisdiction over Fall River's activities.

Representing the New York Union Health Center, which has inspired similar institutions in Philadelphia as well as Fall River, were Dr. Leo Polin, its director, and Pauline M. Newman, its education director.

(Continued on Page 3)

## WINNIPEG COAT WORK SHIFTS TO PIECE RATE IN NEW 3-YEAR PACT

A collective agreement for three years for the Winnipeg, Man., cloak trade was signed and approved on Dec. 1 with the Winnipeg Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association. It is reported by Samuel Herbst, ILGWU manager in that city.

The new pact of Local 216, Cloak-makers' Union, calls for a change from time to piece-work for the majority of the workers; a wage adjustment for cutters; one week's vacation with pay and a wage adjustment for all those still remaining on time-work. It calls for the setting up of a sick benefit fund, to be maintained by industry contributions, within six months.

According to Herbst, the pact was ratified at a general meeting of the workers by a vote of 401 to 7.

## Sen. Truman Thanks ILGWU For Aiding His Election

"Victory gave us a solemn responsibility to win the war and the peace as quickly as possible," Vice President-elect Harry S. Truman wrote to President Dubinsky in a note of thanks on Nov. 21.

Sen. Truman's note came in response to a message of congratulation addressed to him by President Dubinsky after the election results became known early in November.

## Gross Co. Plant In Fayetteville, Tenn., Is Now Union Shop

The L. N. Gross Co., of Cleveland, O., and Fayetteville, Tenn., manufacturers of popular-priced dresses, signed an agreement with the ILGWU late in November for its Fayetteville plant. It is announced by Vice Pres. John S. Martin, director of the Southeastern District.

The agreement was a considerable time in the process of negotiation, Martin declared. It covers about 300 people and guarantees a union shop. It also grants a substantial increase in pay to all employees and an additional increase on May 15, 1945. In addition, it provides for four hours' pay for "report-to-work" claims as well as establishing a week's vacation with pay.

Standard clauses on grievance machinery and arbitration are included in the pact, according to Martin. The L. N. Gross plant in Cleveland also operates under a union agreement.

## ILG 1945 WAR RELIEF EFFORT IN FULL SWING

At press-going time, we learn from the office of Executive Secretary Frederick F. Umhey that the raising of the 1945 ILGWU War Relief Fund is getting into full stride.

The decision to raise such a fund.

(Continued on Page 2)

## ALL DRESS FACTORS AGREE ON HEALTH SERVICES FOR 100,000

The first meeting of the Health Council of the dress industry, established under the collective agreements that were entered into between the New York Dress Joint Board and the three associations last March, was held at the office of Imperial Chairman Harry Trivler on Dec. 11.

1944. It was announced by Vice Pres. Julius Hochman, general manager of the Joint Board. Under the agreements this Council has the authority to determine the types and amounts of health benefits that are to be paid to the workers in the dress industry.

The Council is composed of two representatives from each of the three jobber and manufacturer associations and of six representatives from the Joint Board. The Council

## FDR, In Message to Dubinsky, Says ILG United in Common Bond of Democracy

In a warm note to President David Dubinsky, dated Nov. 15 at the White House, President Franklin D. Roosevelt expressed his appreciation to all the members of the ILGWU for their confidence in him and their loyalty to his Administration as manifested

during the recent national campaign.

## BRITISH GIRLS' CLUBS LAUD ILG ON WAR AID

"British women war-workers will remain eternally grateful to the members of the ILGWU and to other American trade unionists for the generous help they gave to make possible our rest-break homes and women's war clubs," declared Mrs. Walter Elliott, head of the British National Association of Girls' Clubs, at a crowded meeting of the ILGWU Women's Service Brigade on Dec. 13.

Mrs. Elliott, en route to England from Australia, has carried this message of gratitude throughout the United States. The Brigades saw pictures revealing the atmosphere of comfort and relaxation enjoyed in these clubs by women workers on leave from Britain's war plants. Pres. Dubinsky also witnessed these pictures during an interview with Mrs. Elliott.

Mrs. Elliott expressed her delight when she saw the pictures produced by members of Local 22 at their current exhibit in the American-British Art Center.

The President's letter, which came in reply to a message written by the ILGWU chief on Nov. 8 offering FDR congratulations on his election in behalf of the ILGWU's membership, declared that he would "not soon forget that fine demonstration of loyalty" on their part.

President Roosevelt's letter, in full, follows:

Dear Dave:

I have been deeply moved by your letter of November eighth. I shall not soon forget that fine demonstration of loyalty on the stormy Saturday morning to which you refer so feelingly.

What pleases me most is that this assurance of confidence and loyalty, which you make in behalf of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, comes from more than three hundred thousand members, comprising many national strains, beliefs and ancestral lineages but united in the bond of American democracy and common citizenship in a free country.

Please tell each of your members that I appreciate it all more than I can say.

Very sincerely yours,  
Franklin Roosevelt

## TENT-MAKING FOR ARMY INTENSIFIED IN GARMENT SHOPS

Army demand for intensified production of field tents to meet the needs of the armed forces, both in United States camps and abroad, has found a quick response in the garment industry, reports reaching the ILGWU General Office indicate.

Several plants which used to manufacture tents for the Army are resuming tent production as the supply of duck cloth is gradually being replenished.

Meanwhile, Pres. Dubinsky issued an appeal to all union members now employed in production of garments and accessories needed by the Army or the Navy to stick to their jobs regardless of temptations of higher earnings in civilian work. "Armed forces' needs come first," he said, "and must be met first."



LET'S FINISH  
THE JOB -  
BUY EXTRA  
BONDS TODAY!



## LOCAL 91 MOVES FOR RENEWALS, SEEKING INCREASE, 37½-HR. WEEK

Independent employers and downtown shops belonging to the Cotton Apparel and Robe Producers' Association have been called upon to apply for renewal of the existing agreement or to confer on new terms and conditions proposed by the union in a notice sent out by Local 91, Child-dren's Dressmakers, calling attention to the fact that the present pact is scheduled to expire on Dec. 31, 1946, according to Vice Pres. Harry Greenberg, manager of the local.

Thus far, it is pointed out, replies have been received from only a few of the independent employers. At a conference with the association on Dec. 6, at which chairladies from the largest downtown shops were present, the following improvements in the agreement were proposed by the union:

A 15 per cent increase for pieceworkers and a \$1 increase for week-workers; a 37½-hour week; increase of all minimum scales; payment of 4½ per cent of payrolls to the health, vacation and welfare funds. It was also proposed that association members are to employ no less than the number of people they employed in 1941, that each firm is to employ at least 20 persons, that all work is to be done in union

shops only and that Election Day is to be a half-day paid holiday.

Employers were urged to give immediate consideration to these proposals and to advise the union when they would be ready to confer again. Manager Greenberg expressed the hope that an amicable understanding would be reached so that lost working time could be avoided. He added that meetings would be held to advise members of Local 91 of the progress of the negotiations in the shops concerned.

War bond purchases aid in the war effort by helping to hold down prices.

## Local 20 Bond Drive Nets \$5,000 in Cash; Day's Wage Flexible

Members of Local 20, Waterproof Garment Workers' Union, turned their capacity membership meeting on Pearl Harbor day into a bond rally at which more than \$5,000 worth of cash purchases were made and several thousand dollars worth of pledges were received. Manager Joseph Kessler stirred great enthusiasm when he completed his report on supply difficulties in the trade with the appeal to "keep the volume of war bonds in our trade at high peak even though shortages of fabrics in our shops may be causing difficulties."

With Dave Masson as chairman, the meeting accepted Kessler's recommendation to leave the determination of work days for the ILOUW 1945 War Relief Fund to shop chairmen, who will confer with the manager in an effort to schedule the contributory work period during those weeks when the respective shops are at full production. During the course of his bond appeal, Kessler called Sam Nadelman, Local 20 veteran, to the platform. Nadelman, who has given many years of service as member of the Local 20 executive board, is a merchant seaman who was recently wounded when his ship struck a mine in the Atlantic Ocean. He is the past 10 and has three sons in the armed forces.

The entire meeting observed a minute's silence in memory of members' sons who have fallen in action.

Another feature of the meeting was the distribution of compact and pocket secretaries to chairmen and chairladies in recognition of their devotion and service to the local.



SAM NADELMAN

## MONTREAL ILG ACTS TO PLUG UP LOOPHOLES IN BAN ON HOMEWORK

Determined to put a quick stop to chiselling by Montreal employers who have found loopholes in the "no homework" clause of the dress industry agreement for that market, shop chairmen held a meeting on Dec. 1 and voted to call upon all dressmakers to petition the Minister of Labor for immediate amendment of the regulation which is now the subject of court action.

In cooperation with the Joint Commission of the dress industry, The Montreal Dressmakers' Union has been conducting an enforcement drive which has led to the imposition of fines on several manufacturers who were taken to court for violating the "no homework" provision of the pact.

The Joint Commission has gone before the Superior Court to ask for an injunction restraining the Maurice Dress Co. from illegal homework practices. Despite several court penalties, this firm has continued its violations.

During hearings on an interim injunction, the Maurice Dress firm contested the Commission's interpretation of the clause which reads: "No work shall be given to employees to be manufactured or worked upon at home." The company claimed that it was farming out the work not to employees but to total strangers.

The petition for an injunction is now before the Minister of Labor as well as the High Court of Quebec even though the Joint Commission has made official application for an amendment to the agreement which would put a fool-proof ban on all homework in the dress industry.

### Embroiderers Fight Homework

Local 318, Embroiderers' Union, has informed the Montreal man-

## Local 98 Maps Drive To Bring New Plants Under Union Control

An organization drive aimed at bringing about 13 additional shops in the rubberized novelty trade under union control has been launched by Local 98, Manager Daniel Nisnave announces.

The campaign, in which a staff of organizers has been assigned, is intended to meet the influx of new shops into the trade under wartime conditions. The new plants are chiefly engaged in the production of shower curtains, baby pants and dress slippers.

A full account of the progress of the drive will be given at the Local 98 membership meeting to be held at Irving Plaza on Jan. 11. At the same meeting, the day on which the rubberized novelty workers are to make their work contribution to the 1945 ILOUW War Relief Fund will be determined.

## Hollywood Villain Turns Lecturer



Joseph Calleia, noted movieland "bad man," who recently appeared as guest speaker at a membership meeting of the Undergarment Workers' Union, is shown with Marine Stephanie Le Causi and Susan Millo, Local 62 members.

appear to include no loop-holes through which the employers would be able to test the provision in court. Several violations recently discovered have therefore amounted to complete disregard of the law by the firms involved.

### Cloakmakers Approve Fund

An assessment of one and one-half days' wages during the coming season was unanimously approved at a special membership meeting of the Montreal cloakmakers on Nov. 29. One day's wage, to be donated during the first month of the season, will be set aside as a union defense fund. The remaining half-day's pay will be used in line with the decision of the Boston ILOUW Convention to raise a 1945 War Relief Fund.

## \$12,000,000 SET AS BOND GOAL BY CLOAK LABOR-MANAGEMENT

The contribution of the cloak industry to the Sixth War Loan drive will be the purchase of \$12,000,000 worth of bonds, to be allocated for 100 hospital planes, according to an announcement made at a luncheon tendered by the Cloak Joint

by the unions and the employers in the cloak trade in every bond drive. The ILOUW and the cloak association, he said, had demonstrated outstanding loyalty and devotion to the nation's welfare.

Shop chairmen report that the workers are responding readily to the bond campaign. Business agents are covering all the shops in the industry, stimulating the drive and keeping a record of bond sales.

## ILG 1945 WAR RELIEF EFFORT IN FULL SWING

(Continued from Page 1)

based on a day's earnings by all ILOUW members, was made by the General Executive Board of the union at its first quarterly meeting early in October at Atlantic City, N. J. The collections in all shops were to be made between Nov. 1, 1945, and Feb. 28, 1946.

Preoccupation with the national election and the launching of the Sixth War Loan drive, however, served to slow down the tempo of the ILOUW relief fund campaign until early in December, when it was stepped up to meet the time-table set by the GEB. It is reported that Local 62, Undergarment Workers, and Local 185, Knitgoods Workers, both of New York, completed collections in their shops last week. The Miscellaneous Division of Local 16, Cultures, is likewise actively conducting a collection in the many fund in all cutting rooms of its branches in the industry.

In Cleveland, Local 200 (Prints-Binders-Cloak Co.) has likewise worked a full day and sent in its quota to the General Office.

Full-scale collections in New York and in other centers will proceed throughout December, January and February and will be related in future issues of "Justice."

## LOCAL 32 READY FOR PACT RENEWAL; PUTS \$25,000 IN WAR LOAN

The first conference between Local 32 Corset and Brassiere Workers and the employers' association on terms proposed by the union to be included in the industry agreement when the pact is renewed, was scheduled to be held this week. According to Manager Abraham Saper, the present pact is due to expire on Dec. 21.

A meeting between the union and the employers' group was held on Dec. 12 and when time diagrams were arranged for subsequent dates.

The terms proposed by the union will be revealed for the first time at this week's negotiation conference said Saper. He expressed confidence that the same cooperative spirit that has made possible five renewals of the agreement in the past few years without recourse to strike will prevail at the coming discussions.

It is announced that Local 32 has purchased \$25,000 worth of bonds in the Sixth War Loan drive. This money will be placed at the disposal of members has not yet been estimated.

## OPEN THURSDAY EVENINGS 5 TO 8 Convenient for Shoppers

WEEKDAYS: 9:30 A. M. TO 3 P. M.

SATURDAYS: 9:30 A. M. TO 12 NOON

## The GREENBACH SAVINGS BANK

Incorporated 1923

BROADWAY-SIXTH AVENUE-AT 36th ST.

16th ST. OFFICE: 6th AVE. CORNER 16th ST.

Free Satisfying of War Bonds For Depositors

154,000 DEPOSITORS

36th ST.  
35th ST.  
34th ST.  
SIXTH AVE.

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

\$180,000,000 RESOURCES

# HEALTH OPENED IN FALL AFTER TEN YEARS

(Continued from Page 1)  
after the outbreak of 30 years ago.  
Fall River civic dignitaries attending the affair included Mayor Alexander C. Murray and Mrs. Grace Haver. Here, the city's postmaster and widow of Louis McHenry Howe, one of President Roosevelt's closest political advisers.

## ILGW Constructive

As the main speaker at the banquet, Pres. Dubinsky reviewed the growth of the local organization and emphasized the constructive principles that guide the ILGWU. He addressed some of his remarks directly to a group of employers who were among the guests. Thanking them for their cooperation in establishing the new Health Center, he said:

"The union did not come to Fall River to create strife and trouble. We came to build. This event is proof of our positive service to the workers and to the community."

"Quintessence is now being accepted by employers more willingly than before. A new era is approaching. This is a time for celebrating something which truly reflects the harmony and stability that we desire in our industry. Nor is the union merely interested in getting an extra dollar for so for our members. Our aim is to develop the entire industry so that employers may profit sufficiently to pay decent wages and to extend humane treatment to their employees."

"We demand to be recognized as human beings, not as machines. Many does not live by bread alone, and we want the fullness of life for our members. This is why our union is so much concerned with educational and recreational work—even with political activities. And that is why we rejoice at this new Health Center. The Center is an example of our efforts up to now. We expect to accomplish greater things in the future."

Speaking on behalf of Fall River employers, Benjamin Green said: "The union has done excellent service for the workers. Healthy conditions are very important because healthy workers mean happy workers. That is one of the reasons we are proud of our close association with the Union Health Center. We urge every worker to take advantage of its splendid facilities."

## 10-Year Contrast

Director Gingsold, in the course of his address, recalled the bitter struggle to establish the union in the first contrast the mood of triumph, the meaning of which is denouement in Fall River a short decade ago," he said. "The city was then in the depths of depression so extensive that medical care required by even dangerous illnesses was beyond the reach of workers. It was definitely a luxury. Now wage standards here have risen to a decent level, together with welfare programs that are eliminated by this symbol of medical protection for Fall River workers which is permanently theirs. In addition, there has been a great development of unity and racial understanding among our people."

"All this has taken place in a framework of democratic trade

## Miami Red Cross Praises Local 339 Relief Effort

Mrs. Henry O. Shaw, chairman of the Miami, Fla., Volunteer Special Services of the American Red Cross chapter of that city, in a letter to Vice President John R. Martin, ILGWU southeastern director, expressed the thanks of its chapters officials to Jacob Rubin, chairman of Local 339, Miami, Fla., as well as to J. Goldstein and Phil Zwerger, local members, for their "very untiring and unselfish efforts." They noted it possible, Mrs. Shaw pointed out, for the Dade County Chapter to "complete its foreign relief program and have equipment in shipment for distribution among the war-stricken civilians close on the heels of our liberating armies."

unionism that makes us rejoice deeply. I express the appreciation of the Cutlery Garment Department to Fall River old-timers and all the rest who have made possible the inauguration of this splendid institution."

Mayor Alexander C. Murray delivered a brief word of welcome to the diners. "Not only the union should be proud of the Health Center. The whole city of Fall River takes pride in it as an important contribution to preventive medicine. The ILGWU has helped our city greatly with this very fine work it has accomplished," he declared.

## Center to Expand

Drawing a distinction between the Union Health Center and other medical institutions, Dr. Leo Price pointed out that it goes far beyond a clinic and is more comprehensive than a dispensary. "The main purpose (Continued on Page 11)

## Spearheading Philadelphia Bond Drive



Setting the pace for bond purchases during the Sixth War Loan drive by members of the ILGWU in Philadelphia is the above war bond committee comprised of officers of the Joint Board. Seated (left to right): Isadore Goldberg, Vice President Samuel Otto, Josephine Spica, Nathan Alexander. First row, standing: Al Garber, Clara Weiss, Abe Bloomfield, Morris Fishman, Herman Selcovitz, Isadore Aptaker. Rear row: N. Greenberg, Ben Feldman, Abe Belsky, Abe Labenstein, Al Atcovitz.

## ST. LOUIS ILG BEATS CALENDAR TO WIN 1944 VACATION RIGHT

After many months of constant negotiation, the union has gained an agreement providing concrete vacation benefits for approximately 3,000 workers in the St. Louis area. Beating the calendar to the deadline by a narrow margin, payment is to take place during Christmas week this year, in cash consisting of one week's wages based on the workers' respective minimum wage scales.

Instead of the minimum, however, the agreement, which is to run for three years, will use average earnings in the future. It provides that after 1944 the workers are to enjoy a one-week vacation with pay based on average weekly earnings during the vacation season.

Over 2,500 workers, in the silk dress and cloak shops in St. Louis will receive these benefits, and it is expected that current negotiations will soon be completed for the same results in behalf of approximately 1,500 workers employed by the Forest City Manufacturing Co. whose agreement with the union makes the enactment of vacation benefits contingent upon the St. Louis association settlement, now accomplished. The Forest City firm operates plants in St. Louis and in several Illinois cities.

As another direct result of the agreement, the Putnam Garment Co., employing over 1,000 workers in its plants at St. Louis and Alton, will give them vacation benefits this year on terms identical

with those reached in the other St. Louis shops.

The vacation "with" pay was awarded to the union last August after extended arbitration proceedings, and was predicated upon the establishment of a similar vacation set-up in the Chicago dress industry. The St. Louis manufacturers then contended that vacations should not start until 1945, but the union, successfully countering an argument after another, maintained that the benefit should be instituted this year.

The arbitrator agreed with this position, as the results now indicate.

## Snowsuits' Treasury Buys \$100,000 in Bonds

Vice Pres. Jacob J. Heller, manager of Local 104, Snowsuits Workers, reports that this local has bought \$100,000 worth of bonds in the current Sixth War Loan drive. Members of the local, according to Heller, bought at least \$500,000 worth of bonds during the past month, though the actual sum has not yet been compiled.

## PHILADELPHIA WEEK BY WEEK

By SAMUEL OTTO, V.P.  
MANAGER, PHILA. DRESS JOINT BOARD

One of our major tasks at present is the renewal of the collective agreement between the Philadelphia Waist and Dressmakers' Joint Board and the Waist and Dress Manufacturers' Association. Since the agreement is scheduled to expire on Jan. 31, 1945, the Joint Board has requested a conference with the association in order to begin negotiations for a renewal as quickly as possible.

We intend to ask for the inclusion of certain new provisions that we consider essential, and we are sure the manufacturers will see the justice of these demands.

Another contract renewal that is fast approaching is the one with the Philadelphia Covered Button, Buckle and Belt Association, which is due to expire on Feb. 2, 1945. Here, too, we have notified the association that the union is ready to begin negotiations. The union will demand a wage adjustment and other improvements in the working conditions of this industry.

The Joint Board is happy to announce that it has met its quota in the Sixth War Loan by selling \$1,000,000 worth of bonds. Every officer, chairman, chairlady and member of our shop committees was actively instrumental in the success of this drive, and the union expresses its appreciation to them.

An interesting sidelight of the campaign came when the Treasury Department assigned a group of war veterans to visit the shops with our business agents. Making the rounds in Army jumps, these servicemen-labor teams held bond rallies in each of the shops controlled by the Philadelphia Joint Board.

The Philadelphia Union Health Center has installed a completely modern chest X-ray laboratory, which means that every member of the union will now be able to obtain a free examination in the Center. Arrangements have been made for entire shops to be examined in groups.

If X-rays are taken, each plate will be examined by a physician, and if any "positive" sign is discovered, the member will be asked to appear at the Health Center for a thorough check-up. We believe this method of preventive medicine is of great importance to our members, their families and the community in general. The union is indeed proud to be of service in this way.

The new equipment was installed by the world-famous Birch Chest X-Ray Clinic of Philadelphia.

The Educational Department, under the direction of Abe Belsky, has arranged a comprehensive program for the winter season. A large

group of members attends the current events class. It is also planned to publish periodicals in mimeographed form. These will be posted on the bulletin boards in the shops.

A chorus is now being formed and rehearsals are scheduled in the very near future.

Abe Bloomfield, recently chosen as secretary-treasurer of the Joint Board and before that educational director for a long time, was given a testimonial dinner by his many friends in recognition of his extensive service to the union and to the cause of labor. Mark Starr, ILGWU educational director, was one of the speakers.

Local 45, Dress Pressers' Union, arranged a welcome-party party for its business agent, Max Segal, upon his recent recovery from a very serious operation. Restored to good health, Brother Segal has now resumed his regular union duties.



The four-week drive by the staff of the Maryland-Virginia District to organize workers at the Hagerstown Manufacturing Co., Hagerstown, Md., was scheduled to reach a climax on Dec. 14 in a membership meeting at which Angela Bannabe, district manager, was to report on the progress of the campaign and the demands being made by the union, according to Vice Pres. Charles Kreindler.

Organizer Samuel Kimbrough reports that enough workers at the plant have been signed up to give the ILGWU an edge in calling for collective bargaining rights.

APL unions in Hagerstown have cooperated in bringing the drive to this encouraging stage.

Maxine Silverstein, who studied under Prof. Theresa Wolfson at Brooklyn College, has been appointed director of the Maryland-Virginia District and the Baltimore Joint Board.



(Courtesy Chattanooga Times) Mrs. Agnes M. Martin (right) makes left to right Genevieve Jones, Jerry Sheels, Mrs. J. W. Eaton and Mrs. Amy Simon, "Joe the Mark" at Chattanooga grammar class held at ILG headquarters.

# WORLD LE INTERNATIONAL

## FIVE EOT SHOPS SHARE \$3,000 IN BACK PAY IN AWARD OF WLB

Close to \$3,000 in back pay is being distributed to 125 workers in five shops of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department as the result of recent War Labor Board approvals, it was announced last week by Director Harry Wandler.



By GEORGE RUBIN, V.P.

With the Army securing intensified production of overcoats and a new type of field jacket, the cloak industry is being called upon to submit bids for these contracts.

Knowing how urgent this task is, we held a conference on Dec. 8, which was attended by representatives of all our shops that are equipped for this kind of production. It was a most profitable one, and the cooperation that was promised we are sure of fulfilling the government's clothing demands.

### Christmas Celebrations

Christmas parties are being held in all of our local districts during the coming holiday season. This is an annual tradition and we cherish it deeply as an opportunity, at the climax of the year, to symbolize the spirit of brotherhood and good will that the world needs so much. It is particularly appropriate when we are engaged in a year that has brought tragedy and loss to so many millions. But the end appears to be approaching at last, and with it we can express the hope that during Christmas will eventually pervade the hearts of men everywhere.

The aim of the ILGWU is to make the spirit of Christmas function throughout the year, in terms of decent livelihoods and friendly relations of all. Parties are being given at Local 67, Camden; Local 139, Monmouth County; Local 131, Hudson County; John's affairs are being arranged by Locals 134 and 156, of Passaic and Paterson; Locals 36 and 129, of Long Island City, and Locals 141 and 167, of Connecticut.

Our members in the armed forces will, of course, be warmly remembered, with the profound hope that they may soon return to our midst.

### Guzzo Case Ended

The Frances Guzzo case, which during the recent election campaign aroused some confusion, has been settled in complete favor of the union. There could never have been any doubts that this would be the outcome, for the union was straightforward and aboveboard in its raising drive. It rested on a basis of thoroughly free and voluntary contributions; there was no element of compulsion about it.

But Frances Guzzo, a member of Local 129, falsified the issue by telling the anti-labor press that she was fired from her job under union pressure, because she refused to donate to the ILGWU campaign fund. Aside from being untrue, this was a deliberate effort to weaken the union in the eyes of the public.

Now the District Attorney, who investigated the charges, and the Grand Jury of Nassau County, which judged all the evidence, have given us a clean bill of health. It is officially certified that other workers likewise refused to donate but that their union standing was affected in no way.

The full meaning of this incident should be understood as an excellent object-lesson in the value of union loyalty and confidence.

## Killed in Action



Pvt. Felix R. Clementi, first reported missing, was killed in action on October 3, 1944, in peace. Pvt. Clementi, member of Local 163, was employed as a stretcher at the Cohoes Silk Undergarment Co., Cohoes, N. Y.

## BARBIZON SHOP BUYS \$15,000 BONDS WHEN VETERANS TELL NEED

Notable among the many rallies being held throughout the Eastern Out-of-Town territory in connection with the Sixth War Loan drive was the noon meeting held in the luncheon of the huge Barbizon Corp. plant on Nov. 28, at which pledges for the purchase of over \$15,000 worth of bonds were made.

Organizer Harry Bronstein reports that hundreds of workers jammed the large hall to hear Treasury Department speakers and war heroes recently returned from the battlefields tell of the urgent need to keep the supply of materials going in a steady flow to the front.

The pledges made by the Barbizon workers immediately filled their quota for the drive and apparently constitute the basis for a new record of bond purchases at the plant.

## Locals 220, 222, Newark, Map Education Program

Plans for an extensive educational and social program are being drawn up by Locals 220 and 222 of Newark, N. J.

The program will include regular monthly forums at which outstanding speakers will lecture on various current topics, socials and dances to which members of the armed forces will be invited, and continuation of the informal weekly open house, at which dancing and a discussion are combined into an interesting evening.

## BETTER TO GIVE...

EOT Locals Celebrate Christmas As Tradition—Spirit of Good Will Includes War Victims—Day's Pay Contribution Is Act of Mercy

By HARRY WANDER, V.P.

General Manager, Eastern Out-of-Town Department

In the coming two weeks, practically every shop in the Eastern Out-of-Town area will sponsor a get-together or modest party to mark the holiday season.

## BRAND RENEWAL RAISES BENEFITS ON HEALTH FUND

The joint agreement covering 125 workers at the shops run by the Brand Brothers and by A. and L. Brand in New Haven, Conn., has been renewed with several improvements. According to Manager Jacob L. Banach, the new features in the benefit system provided by the contract are a source of great satisfaction among the workers.

Other improvements added benefits to the previously established benefits. They also call for increasing the employers' payroll contribution from 3 per cent to 4½ per cent to cover the extra cost.

Other improvements have been won in the determination of rates for the workers in the Brand shops, which manufacture children's dresses.

## UNION SEEKS AID OF U. S. CONCILIATOR ON MAYFLOWER POSITION

The United States Conciliation Service has been called upon to help solve the stalemate which has blocked negotiations with the Mayflower Dress Co., Newark, N. J. These hearings are being conducted by Commissioner Mandelbaum for the government agency. More than 300 workers in three New Jersey shops are covered by the single agreement with Mayflower, according to Organizer Peter Dellefien. Negotiations have been greatly prolonged by the firm's adamant refusal to consider improvements in the terms of the union agreement.

## Renewal at Inwood Increases Wage and Sets Up Health Fund

Approval is being sought from the War Labor Board for the 32 weekly increase won by the 17 workers of the Inwood Manufacturing Co., Inwood, N. J., reports Organizer Jack Grossman of Local 57. The wage increase is included in a renewed agreement, which also adds a system of health benefits to the vacation terms retained from the expired pact. The employers' payroll deduction has accordingly been increased from 2 per cent to 4½ per cent.



KEEP FAITH with us by buying WAR BONDS

## EOT Delegates to Jersey Labor Parley



Officers and members of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department shown with Vice President Harry Wandler who headed the ILGWU delegation at the recent New Jersey State Federation of Labor convention in Atlantic City.

party to mark the holiday season. Among our members this is an event which is as traditional as the union's constant vigilance over wages and hours.

Persons who are unfamiliar with the history of our union are often surprised at these manifestations of fine feeling and brotherhood which are given open expression during the Yuletide season.

But those of us who have watched this organization grow, have seen its good works spread from community to community, have always known that the animating spirit behind all that we have done has been the spirit of brotherhood, of the sharing of the good things of life. Anti-labor forces and scare-mongers always exploit stories of strikes in their eagerness to put union in a bad light.

But to us strikes, which we had to call in great number in the days before the war, were not threats of violence or attempts to deprive employers of returns to which they might rightfully be entitled. They are nothing more or less than an effort to win a fairer share of good things for workers not only denied the smaller luxuries of life but also the basic necessities of healthful living.

Take away the noise and ballyhoo, look beyond the facade of everyday union affairs, study the conduct of our meetings, and you will see the spirit of brotherhood and democracy at work.

Now we are once more at the season of good will among men. This is again a Christmas when the young men are overseas, when the entire energy of the nation is turned to defeating an enemy who does not understand the meaning of brotherhood and tolerance.

In our homes, we shall celebrate the season, thinking of those less fortunate than ourselves, of people who have not enough food or clothing or adequate housing, in those sections of the world freed from Nazi domination.

I can think of no better way in which the spirit of brotherhood could be more suitably expressed this year than by making a contribution to the ILGWU War Relief Fund, for which a goal of \$2,000,000 has been set for 1945. Two years ago our union raised \$1,500,000 for relief purposes and that sum of money was distributed among 60 organizations doing humanitarian relief work in this country and in the liberated areas, without distinction of race, color or religious belief.

The Boston convention of our union last summer approved the raising of the 1945 ILGWU War Relief Fund. The fund is to be built up through donations by each member of the proceeds of one day's work. Substantial portions of the funds collected are to be relayed by local affiliates to meet their community needs.

Plans now being completed by the Eastern Out-of-Town Department will enable members to make their contribution of a day's pay without cutting into their regular earnings.

We have grown so accustomed to hearing of the pain and suffering abroad in the world that there is the danger that we may become callous to appeals for help—even when they are made by innocent victims, women and children and aged.

A contribution to the ILGWU War Relief Fund will be the symbol that the one hatred we shall continue to foster, the hatred for evil and all that it means in human suffering, is still alive in us—even that we haven't forgotten that it is more blessed to give.

Every bond purchase is an insurance policy for victory. Buy bonds!

# NEW YORK DRESSMAKERS SECTION

NEWS OF THE DRESS JOINT BOARD AND AFFILIATED LOCALS

## Milestone in Dressmakers' Health



New York dress industry and union chiefs shown with impartial Chairman Harry Uviller (holding contract) at his office on December 1. Plans for completion of the health fund for metropolitan dressmakers were completed at this memorable conference.

## ALL DRESS FACTORS AGREE ON HEALTH SERVICES FOR 100,000

(Continued from Page 1)  
man reported to the Council as to the amount the union had allowed from the health and vacation funds for the payment of health benefits and proposed certain definite health benefits for adoption. After some discussion, the following program was unanimously approved:

### New Program Approved

Upon application to the health fund, workers are to be eligible for medical services at the Union Health Center, consisting of health examination, treatment, diagnostic and specialist services. The aggregate cost of these services at rates regularly charged by the Union Health Center is not to exceed the sum of \$15 in any one benefit year.

Payment of hospital benefits is to be at the rate of \$3 a day, up to 25 days during the benefit year, upon presentation of the hospital bill and certification by the Union Health Center that the condition is such that the patient is eligible for sick-benefit payments.

Payment of \$12 a week for ten weeks in each benefit year is to be made to workers disabled as a result of illness, with the first ten days of illness to be considered one week. Payments are to be made upon certification of illness by the Union Health Center and are to cover all types of illness, with the exception of certain indefinitely diagnosed conditions, in accordance with the rules and regulations to be adopted by the health fund. Pregnancies are also excepted. Upon certification by the Union Health Center that a worker is afflicted with pulmonary, laryngeal or renal tuberculosis, he is to be entitled—at the discretion of the health fund—either to a cash settlement of \$250 or, if admitted to an institution in the vicinity of New York, to payments at the rate of \$12 a week for ten weeks, plus \$50 for incidental expenses. If admitted to an institution in a distant state, the worker is to receive payment by the health fund of plus to from the institution. Plus \$50 for incidental expenses.

### Optical Care Stressed

Eye examinations are to be given to all workers in the industry in their shops, in order to ascer-

tain whether workers require glasses or other treatment. This optical survey is intended to cover all of the shops in the industry once in three years. Workers who need glasses will be referred to the Union Health Center, where they will obtain them free of charge.

These benefits are to be paid to workers who are eligible under the rules and regulations to be established by the health fund of the Joint Board. The proposed plan covers workers in New York

City. For out-of-town workers, modifications or changes in the plan to suit local needs are expected to be made within the discretion of local unions.

The Council decided that as soon as experience demonstrated the feasibility of adding to the benefits or providing for new ones, necessary steps would be taken at subsequent meetings of the Council.

Under the agreement, the Joint Board has sole jurisdiction over the administration of the fund, the payment of health and vacation benefits and the establishment of rules and regulations. The amount of the vacation benefits to be paid is not within the jurisdiction of the Council. This will be determined later by the Joint Board. The Joint Board will also determine the date when the payment of benefits will commence.

## 'EASEL AND NEEDLE BLEND WELL IN ILG,' SAYS PRES. DUBINSKY AS ART EXPERTS AWARD EIGHT AT LOCAL 22 EXHIBIT

The third biennial exhibit of Local 22's Art Workshop opened as scheduled on Dec. 4 at the American-British Art Center, 44 West 50th St., New York City, and will remain open until Dec. 23. Vice President Charles S. Zimmerman, the local's manager, announced.

The oils, water-colors and pastels shown at the exhibit, all products of the Art Workshop members, are for sale at prices ranging from \$25 to \$250, with net proceeds of the exhibition earmarked for the New York War Fund. Some of the scenes portrayed are imaginary, and others were suggested by local subjects. Several of the exhibits depict scenes in the garment industry.

On Tuesday, Dec. 5, the six artist-jurors, Marion Greenwood, Maxim Kopl, Bernard La Motte, Henry Varrin, Poe, Abraham Ratner and Umberto Romano, awarded prizes to eight dressmaker exhibitors whose work stood out among the scores of canvases hung on the walls of the Art Center. The prizes consisted of war bonds. The first prize, \$100, went to Shirley Shenker; second prize, \$75, to Minnie Swead; third prize, \$50, to Helen Dworkin; fourth prize, \$30, to Rebecca Lissner. Four honorable mentions entitling \$25 bonds were awarded to Miriam Denker, Grace Kopman, Arlene Shere and Helen Saltzman.

In 1942 Local 22's Art Workshop, which was founded in 1940, presented a group show at the Persitz Galleries which brought in over \$2,000 for United China Relief. The Workshop is under the direc-

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## STREADED DUES SYSTEM APPROVED BY DRESSMAKERS

A very well-attended membership meeting of Local 22, Dressmakers, was held at Manhattan Center on Dec. 12, when Vice Pres. Charles S. Zimmerman, local manager, gave a full report on the various problems confronting the organization.

Israel Breslow was chairman of the meeting.

## JT. BD. RECOVERS \$128,000 AS PAY IN PACT BREACH

Almost \$128,000 improperly withheld from workers' earnings by employers in violation of the collective agreement was regained by the New York Dress Joint Board in the eight months since the agreement has been in force, according to Jacob P. Rosenbaum, assistant general manager of the New York Dress Joint Board.

Through the careful and systematic investigations of the Accounting Department, misrepresentation of price ranges, resulting in reduced price rates, were found in 135 firms and \$100,000.50 retrieved. The balance of the total of \$127,993.47 was collected by business agencies in connection with other violations of the collective agreement.

The New York Dress Joint Board through its staff and departmental agencies is ever vigilant to uncover all such violations and to bring about proper restitution. The considerable sum collected from the employers in the eight months from April through November, 1944, is eloquent evidence of the effectiveness of this enforcement machinery.

## Post-Election Shop Party Nets \$100 For War Fund

The dress workers employed in the shop of S. Kaestenbaum, 264 West 40th St., held a victory party on Nov. 9 to celebrate the re-election of President Roosevelt and celebrated the occasion by collecting \$100 for the New York War Fund. Sarah Quasno is chairlady of the Kaestenbaum shop.

## Benefits Described

The program of benefits adopted earlier that day by the Joint Council of the health and vacation fund was described by Manager Zimmerman. Discussions were still proceeding, he said, on two union proposals—one, to increase the 10-week illness-benefit period to 12 weeks in the first year; the other, to undertake a tuberculosis benefit survey. Zimmerman's remarks on the subject were greeted with repeated expressions of satisfaction and approval by the audience.

Describing the system of vacation payments, Zimmerman stated that it had been very difficult to determine equitable scales but that practical rates had finally been worked out. Accordingly, operators, sample-makers, special-machine operators and drapers are to receive \$30 for one week's vacation; finishers and examiners are to get \$25; cleaners and pinkers are to be paid \$23. He pointed out that the payments for the major crafts are slightly below the regular minimum, in return for which those for the minor crafts are slightly above.

## Finances Analyzed

The most important matter to come before the meeting was the financial condition of the local, upon which Zimmerman reported at length. The union's financial situation was a difficult situation because of the great expenditure of union services in recent years, involving ever greater expenditures, at a time of steady decline in one of the chief sources of income, initiation fees from new members. Some years ago, he recalled, an attempt at adjustment of dues payments had been made, but this was no longer adequate because of the consequences of war and inflation on the union's finances. In

(Continued on Page 12)

## Art Aids War Fund



Vice President Charles S. Zimmerman hands out war bonds to winners of the third biennial showing of the Local 22 Art Workshop which will continue at the American-British Art Center, 44 West 50th St., until December 23. Seth Hoffman, instructor (right), is shown with the group, which includes Shirley Shenker, Minnie Swead, Helen Dworkin, Rebecca Lissner, Miriam Denker, Grace Kopman and Arlene Shere. Proceeds of the showing will benefit the National War Fund.

# AFL CONVENTION PLEADS FOR FREE LABOR

Hearty applause greeted Vice Pres. Matthew Woll of the American Federation of Labor when, at the conclusion of the morning session of the AFL convention on Thursday, Nov. 28, at New Orleans, La., he called upon the delegates to pledge full moral and material support to the Italian people in their current hour of tragic war.

Woll spoke as secretary of the convention's committee on International Labor Relations, referring directly to a report submitted by Luigi Antonini whom the Federation had sent last September on a labor mission to investigate Italy's economic and social conditions. Antonini's report on his visit to Italy, in printed form, had been distributed among the delegates before Woll spoke.

Vice Pres. Woll's address, in full, was as follows:

"Commenting upon the report of Luigi Antonini regarding the mission assigned to him by Pres. Green to visit Italy, along with a representative of the British Trades Union Congress, you have examined the labor situation, as represented in the reports submitted by Brother Luigi Antonini, and from various other sources.

## Free Labor

"It is encouraging to observe the speed with which the labor elite of Italy have rushed after the breakdown of fascism to form free labor unions and to renew the old democratic formations, which were suppressed and outlawed for more than twenty years under the bloody regime of Mussolini and his henchmen. This resurgence of free labor is a step in the right direction, better than anything else that despite terror and persecution, the spirit of democracy never was permanently extinguished in Italy and that the Italian nation never accepted fascism as a pattern for existence.

"But the labor movement in Italy at this moment cannot be viewed apart from the general economic, political and social situation of that country. These three factors are interwoven and interdependent. We must also bear in mind that not all Italy is free from Nazi occupation and that in most of the occupied industrial sections in North Italy where the factory workers predominate, the labor movement cannot as yet openly function and lend its full strength to free trade union organization. Above all, it is well to remember that even in the liberated provinces Italy is still under the domination of Allied occupation forces and the processes of democratic life must of necessity be subordinated to military demands.

"It is clear that our praise and undertaking to help the workers in Allied lands to revive their free labor unions finds a wide field for immediate and urgent application in Italy. We can assist our Italian fellow trade unionists in more than one way, and this help should be both material and moral.

"Let the American Federation of

Labor should give its full support to the democratic elements in the Italian labor movement, to those elements which are opposed to totalitarian organization and domination. For, while it is being reported that at the moment a truce prevails between the democratic and totalitarian groups in the central labor body of Italian labor, it is certain that this truce may last only until the Communists find it opportune to make a bid for domination and the overpowering of all democratic opposition. By strengthening democracy in Italian labor today, we may make a substantial contribution toward the preservation of democracy throughout Italy.

"Italy is economically ruined and its economy is at a low ebb. The Italian people are hungry, ill-clothed and despairing of the future. For months after the fall of fascism, the frankly anticipated relief from the Allied countries has been coming only in dribble. Lately, this help, especially from America, has increased. It is terribly urgent that this help be multiplied during the coming months.

"The upland movement undertaken by the American Committee for Italian Relief, with the cooperation of the Italian-American Labor Council of New York, is collecting help for the stricken Italian population, which has resulted in hundreds of thousands of garments already forwarded to Italy, deserves hearty commendation. Such help, however, meets only a small fraction of the vast needs. We call upon the agencies of our government charged with distribution of relief abroad to consider the tragic situation in Italy and to redouble their efforts in that direction without delay and procrastination.

"Finally, in America recognize that the conditions in Italy do not yet permit the complete withdrawal of military rule as long as Nazi armies still are fighting on Italian soil. Nevertheless, we must not fail to realize that the Italian people are eagerly awaiting the hour of restoration of their national sovereignty and that such a restoration is incompatible with the thought of protracted military occupation. Moreover, our policy towards Italy must be such that would make it clear to the Italian population of every political belief and economic group that America will not support either the dismemberment of their country or the imposition of a form of government to which they are irrevocably opposed.

"Such an open and declared policy will strengthen immensely the elements of democracy throughout Italy and infuse hope and confidence among the democratic contingents in the trade unions. For, as Brother Antonini has succinctly

stated, 'Plans to have jobs ready for returning servicemen who become to Local 60, Dress-Makers' Union, are being formulated by the local's executive board, according to a statement by Vice Pres. Max Cohen, local manager.'

"During the entire period of the election campaign," said Cohen, "the full attention of our members was concentrated on the task of electing to office the Roosevelt Administration, which in war, as in peace, has enjoyed the confidence of organized labor.

"The success of the political campaign establishing a favorable framework within which those problems are to be faced. But, as in the case of other sections of our industry, there still remain the day-to-day tasks of safeguarding the industry, of settling prices, of planning for the future.

"To these tasks the executive board of Local 60 is now devoting its best efforts. With the period of settling prices ended in most shops, the new season is well under way and reports to the local's office indicate general satisfaction with the results.

"As far as our members in the armed forces are concerned, we have continued the practice of sending them gift packages, which we are completing this Christmas with a \$10 money order.

"The problems arising from re-conversion to full civilian production are being carefully studied. While full details are still lacking, pending clarification of national policy, there is one principle to which the promoters will adhere strictly," Cohen concluded. "We shall continue to be at aid substance to the warmth and enthusiasm of the welcome we shall extend to our men when they return by making certain that for each one of them there will be a job waiting, a door open for their quick and unhampered return to civilian life."

"In concluding his report: 'Only in the atmosphere of a truly democratic country free of the perils of totalitarianism is there hope for a truly democratic and free trade union organization to develop and prosper.'

## I. Edison Workers Honor Rose Adler, Chairlady

Rose Adler, retiring chairlady of the I. Edison Dress Co. 1383 Broadway, was honored last week for her sense of responsibility and her loyal cooperation in a resolution adopted by Caroline Barera, Local 89, Pearl Selkin, Local 22; Rose Walkowitz, Local 22; Frances Natale, Local 89; and Jennie Scanorino, Local 89. The resolution was read in the name of all the workers of the shop.

The resolution also thanked Business Agent I. Rosenfeld for his 'unfailing activity in our behalf.'

# DRESSMAKERS' BOND PURCHASES FAST APPROACH \$8,000 GOAL

The New York Drive Joint Board has purchased \$4,000,000 worth of bonds in the Sixth War Loan out of funds taken from its treasury. Nathaniel M. Minkoff, secretary-treasurer of the Joint Board, reported last week to the union's board of directors.

To complete this gigantic financial operation, the Joint Board had to resort to bank loans and shifts in its investment holdings, it was explained.

## LOCAL 22 URGES LAW TO ENFORCE FAR RACE HATE

Local 22, Dressmakers' Union, went on record last week as urging "the earliest possible enactment by the state legislature of a state fair employment practices law, banning as an unfair labor practice subject to legal penalties, any action denying equal employment opportunities to persons on grounds of race, color or creed." This stand was taken in a resolution adopted on Dec. 9 by the Local 22 Executive Board upon the recommendation of Vice Pres. Charles R. Zimmerman, local manager.

"Discrimination in employment opportunities on grounds of race, color or creed is an intolerable evil, an flagrant contradiction to the equality of opportunity and social justice that lie at the foundation of our democratic way of life," the Local 22 resolution declares.

"The resolution expresses general approval of the measure now being considered by the New York State Commission Against Discrimination but proposes a number of amendments to 'strengthen and render it more effective.' These proposed amendments include limitation of judicial review to questions of law, granting of the right to file a complaint to interested organizations as well as to aggrieved persons, inclusion of non-profit organizations as employers and non-fee-charging agencies as employment agencies within the meaning of the law, and the unequivocal outlawing of discriminatory 'help wanted' advertisements.

## EASEL AND NEEDLE BLEND WELL IN IGLW

(Continued from Page 5)

tion of Seth Hoffman, well-known artist and instructor. Other sponsors include William Green, Philip Murray, Matthew Woll, David Dubinsky, Fiorelli H. La Guardia, John L. Childs, George S. Counts, A. Philip Randolph, Julius Hochman, Harry Truller, Mrs. Vincent Astor and Dorothy Thompson.

President Dubinsky visited the exhibition on Dec. 5, together with

Minkoff also gave a preliminary report on the progress of the war bond drive among the members of the union. Vice Board's report was support for the Sixth War Loan was meeting with a wide and enthusiastic response, he said. Information submitted by the three principal departments of the Joint Board showed the following results:

In 35 Affiliated Association shops, 2,468 workers, in cooperation with their employers, have subscribed to \$628,500 worth of bonds.

In 60 Popular Association shops, 2,328 workers have similarly subscribed to \$466,715 worth of bonds. In 35 National Association shops, 1,624 workers have subscribed to \$290,825 worth of bonds.

Thus, a total of 6,420 workers, together with their employers, in 126 shops, have subscribed to a total of \$1,326,040 worth of bonds.

These figures are as of Dec. 1, covering only one week of the three-week drive. There was no doubt, Minkoff pointed out, that the Joint Board would reach its quota of \$8,000,000 before the end of the drive.

Economic conditions in the industry, Minkoff pointed out in connection with the report, are by no means uniformly bright at the moment. As a matter of fact, in the lower price ranges, which constitute the main portion of the industry, the workers are working only part time. In order to purchase bonds in the Sixth War Loan drive, many dressmakers have had to borrow money to meet their regular payments out of current earnings. Max Bluestein, head of the Organization Department, who was present at the meeting of the Board of Directors when this report was submitted, confirmed this fact from the records of the Dressmakers' Credit Union, of which he is chairman. The Credit Union, with the consent of the State Banking Department under which it operates, has reduced interest rates to a minimum in order to be able to help its members to borrow funds for bond purchases.

several members of the General Executive Board, in commenting on the dressmakers' art show, the IGLW chair said:

"The easel and the needle have become close friends in our union. We have become accustomed to exhibitions by our own artists and, judging by the samples exhibited here, we have a right to call them true artists even though we are not the 'Garden of Eden' of the Union and not to artists' union."

"Art in the IGLW is not purely a New York affair. Of course, in New York we have the artist groups in Local 22, in Local 31 and in Local 135. But we also have art classes and exhibits in Paterson, in Kansas City, in St. Louis, in Montreal and in several other cities. It goes to show that our art is by no means a New York monopoly.

"We enjoy the creative work of our boys and girls and we praise them for their efforts to give expression to the artistic feelings which many of them possess. We are also proud of the encouragement which our union offers to these workers to develop their talents and derive satisfaction from the fulfillment of their natural gifts.

"But I would be the last one to state that it is only our own members who possess artistic gifts and who know how to give expression to their talents. Thousands of workers in other trades, no nation art are no less gifted. If given an opportunity, they, too, could develop and find joy and happiness in their work."

## "THE VOICE OF LOCAL 89"

The Most Popular  
ITALIAN RADIO HOUR  
Symphony Orchestra and  
Opera Singers of International  
Fame

## Luigi Antonini

First Vice President, IGLW,  
and General Secretary of Local 40  
in his weekly comment on labor  
and political events

EVERY SATURDAY MORNING  
From 10 to 11  
on EASTERN HOOKUP

WIEV (1330 Kc.) New York  
WJAT (1340 Kc.) Philadelphia  
WCOB (1150 Kc.) Boston  
WJNY (1240 Kc.) Bridgeport, N.J.

## Voice from Republican Spain



Diego Martinez Barrio, president of the Spanish Cortes under the Republican government, shown being greeted by Spanish-speaking members of the Dressmakers' Union during his recent visit to New York.



# The Cloak Joint Board

## NEWS OF THE N.Y. CLOAK UNIONS

### LOCAL 117 ANALYZES WORK PROSPECTS AS NEW SEASON ARRIVES

An extended report on industrial conditions facing the union was given by Manager Benjamin Kaplan at a general membership meeting of Local 117, Cloak Operators, on Dec. 7 at the Manhattan Center.

It was revealed that the fall season has been very satisfactory and that preparations are now being made for the spring season. Though prices are rapidly being settled and work-week shops are beginning to get busy, especially in infants' and children's coat shops where a great deal of overtime is being put in, it was pointed out that unfortunately the situation is otherwise in those lines which are still working on fall garments. It was explained that lend-lease and military work will continue to play an important part in cloak production in the coming period.

Information is being made out to the members, giving them complete details on all benefits provided by the local and the International. It was emphasized that this material deserves careful study.

Manager Kaplan issued a warning to all members that there must be strict enforcement of regulations concerning the renewal of working cards. He stated that all workers must secure such cards regardless of their length of employment in the shop.

### Cloak Pressers Open Social Program With Great Theatre Party

About 1,600 cloak pressers and their wives attended the theatre party arranged by Local 35 on Dec. 6 for the matinee performance of "They All Want to Get Married," the new musical comedy. It was the first big entertainment undertaking of the season, the affair being taken over the entire house.

It was announced that the local's first Saturday open forum will be held on Dec. 16, with Manager Breslaw speaking on labor's post-war prospects.

It was also announced that the educational committee is planning the establishment of a social service department to assist returning veterans, who belong to the local, when they resume civilian life. "Our hearts and resources are open to those returning from the fighting fronts," Breslaw declared.

### Zuckerman to Aid Jt. Bd. On Retirement Arrears

Rubin Zuckerman, chairman of Local 117, is assuming additional responsibilities with the Cloak Joint Board, in connection with the Retirement Fund. His new duty is to check on employers who are delinquent in payments to the fund and to direct the enforcement of these obligations.

### Los Angeles Cloak Shops Get 1944 Vacation Wages

Louis Pine, manager of the Los Angeles Cloak Joint Board, reports completion of the distribution of vacation pay checks covering the first six months of the current year, Dec. 1 to May 31. All former members of the Los Angeles Joint Board, who believe that a check is due them, are urged to contact the office as the checks can be retained for a limited period only.

### Key to Italian Relief



Vice President Edward Molitani hands key to warehouse full of coats and suits to Justice Juvenal Marchisio. Shown with them (left to right, front) are Vice Presidents Israel Feinberg and Joseph Breslaw, President Dubinsky, Generoso Pope, First Vice President Luigi Antonini and Vice President Samuel Shore (see story).

## CLOAK IT. BD. SHIPS 14,000 GARMENTS TO FREE ITALIANS

Fourteen thousand coats and suits for women and children in liberated areas of Italy were turned over to Justice Juvenal Marchisio, president of American Relief for Italy, Inc., by Vice Pres. Edward Molitani during ceremonies at the headquarters of Local 48, Italian Cloakmakers' Union, on Dec. 6.

The garments, valued at approximately \$400,000, were gathered by locals affiliated with the New York Cloak Joint Board, and in most cases represent a direct work contribution to the drive by the cloakmakers. In the case of shops making products not suitable for relief purposes, contributions were made in money. From the relief fund, the Cloak Joint Board contributed \$17,000.

Each of the garments carries a tag which, in both Italian and English, informs the recipient that "the Italian-American Labor Council offers this fraternal token of faith and affection to the people of liberated Italy."

The presentation of the garments was made in the presence of officers and members of the Cloak Joint Board. Among those who spoke in addition to Vice Pres. Molitani and Justice Marchisio, were Pres. David Dubinsky, First Vice Pres. Luigi Antonini, General Manager Israel Feinberg, Generoso Pope, publisher of "Il Progresso," and others.

The speakers called attention to the quality of the garments, many of which with fur collars and sturdy linings, which ranged through all sizes. One entire row of racks was

filled with hundreds of coats ranging from size three to size six. These are destined to clothe the small children, who have been the most pathetic victims of the fighting in Italy.

In making the presentation, Molitani told Justice Marchisio: "These garments are the pure token of humanitarian brotherhood which has animated the members and officers of the New York Cloak Joint Board in the noble cause of aiding the Italian people, who now face suffering and misery. For the enthusiasm that our people have put into this drive, thousands and thousands of mothers will bless us."

These thousands of women and children, plunged into the misery created by the crimes of fascism, turn to the traditional friendship of the United States as their only real hope of re-establishing an Italy based on freedom and democracy. Their cry for help cannot be denied. We cannot consider our task finished until, under the leadership of our great President Roosevelt, the work of reconstructing a nation that has been blasted by bombs is completed and women and children can once more walk in the sun, laugh and sing, and wonder

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### Retirement Fund Goes to War



Frederick W. Gehle, chairman, N. Y. State War Finance Committee, shown receiving check for \$1,600,000 from Samuel Klein, chairman of the investment committee of the Retirement Fund of the Coat and Suit Industry in New York on November 30, for the purchase of war bonds. Representatives of the associations and the New York Cloak Joint Board witnessed the presentation.

## MODERN HEALTH PANS SET UP BY SKIRT AND PRESSER UNIONS

### Local 23 Gives Okay To Sickness Plan After Careful Study

After long and careful examination of the merits of the health fund for Local 23, Skirtmakers' Union, the provisions setting up the plan were unanimously approved at a general membership meeting of the local on Nov. 30. These provisions were introduced in Local 23's collective agreement in August, 1943.

Representing a progressive advance in the union's safeguards of its members' health, the fund includes the following features:

1. Workers in shops of the National Skirt Manufacturers' Association are to receive \$13 a week for a period of ten weeks, with payments to begin on the second day of illness.

2. Workers in shops of the American Association, for whom employers do not pay into the fund, will receive \$10 a week for ten weeks, beginning with the second day of illness.

3. In the event of hospitalization, members will receive \$3 a day for 21 days, in addition to \$30 for such summarized expenses and hospital care as may be necessary.

4. Members of other locals, employed in National Association shops for one year, are eligible to the same health benefits as Local 23 members, except that payment is to consist of \$6 a week for ten weeks.

5. Skirtmakers are entitled to medical care at the Union Health Center up to the value of \$15 a year.

6. Tuberculous patients are to receive a lump sum of \$250, providing they have been members of Local 23 for at least two years.

This health fund, which goes into operation on Jan. 1, 1945, is a striking departure from the system previously used by the local. Hitherto only about 40 per cent of the membership could take advantage of the existing sick fund, paying a monthly fee of 33 cents and being certified by the Union Health Center. As a result of the employers' contractual obligation to pay 14 per cent of their gross payroll into the fund, all members are now covered.

Manager Louis Weiss has invited all shop chairmen and chairladies to be the guests of the union at a Christmas cocktail party on Dec. 21 at the offices of the International, 1710 Broadway. Music, entertainment and dancing are on the program.

Local 23 will purchase \$100,000 worth of bonds from its treasury and expects that this will be swelled to \$1,500,000 as a result of additional contributions by workers in the skirt industry.

### Local 35 Is Mapping Self-Financed Steps To Protect Members

The members of Local 35, Cloak and Suit Pressers, have given their union a mandate to establish a self-sustaining health fund. The step was taken at a meeting on Nov. 30.

The decision was made after Vice Pres. Joseph Breslaw, the local's manager, submitted a clear analysis of the subject and requested the members to decide whether they were willing to contribute to a fund in order to gain the benefits he described.

Breslaw emphasized the fact that the local's present system of sick benefits is out of date. "When we established it in 1931, the first union in the International to do so, the system of \$7 a week for ten weeks was fairly substantial, but today it is hopelessly inadequate and we must face that as a fact," he said.

He showed that a comprehensive health system now calls for free medical and specialist treatment, hospital fees, hospitalization, wider tubercular provisions and larger cash payments, the latter on the scale of \$10 a week for 15 weeks.

"Such a program will cost each member from \$16 to \$20 a year, but the question is whether you are willing to pay that much. If it is that important to you, the union will proceed with its investigations and submit a plan to the members. If not, you may instruct us to drop the venture now," he declared.

In the discussion that ensued, broad agreement was expressed on the merits of the program. It was limited that the middle-aged membership required such protection and that the plan would be a very profitable investment. But there was a difference of opinion as to how the money was to be contributed. Some contended that payments should be based on a percentage-of-earnings basis, while others favored a flat uniform charge for all. This question was referred to the committee, together with the body of the plan.

Breslaw also made it clear that the local was not surrendering its belief that the plan should be financed by the industry rather than the workers. "When our last collective agreement was negotiated, we succeeded in obtaining a retirement fund and therefore could not simultaneously demand a health fund," he pointed out. "This demand has merely been deferred. In the meantime, we ought to proceed to create a health fund through our own reserves. It is a further step in the completion of our social security program."

The meeting also pledged \$50,000 additional purchases of bonds in support of the Sixth War Loan drive.

### War Bond to Ben Gollob Is Siegel Workers' Present

Benjamin Gollob, assistant manager of Local 117 was presented with a war bond by the workers of the Siegel shop, 226 West 37th St., as a token of their appreciation. He was warmly praised for his spirit and service in speeches and toasts by workers, guests and a number of officials.

At the same ceremony Dave Levy, shop chairman, was likewise given a war bond by his co-workers. Among the speakers were Benjamin Kaplan, manager of Local 117. The presentation committee included Anthony Agl, William Bloom, Jacob Chernack, Dave Levy, Anne and Rose Marchand.

**BONDS**  
Keep Bombs  
Falling!



## BOOK FRONT

MIRIAM SPICHOHLER

**STORY OF A SECRET STATE.** By Jon Karski. Houghton, Mifflin Co. \$2.00.

**ESCAPE VIA BERLIN.** By Jose Antonio de Aguirre. Macmillan Co. \$2.00.

**I LIED TO LIVE.** By Alexander Jents. Roy Publishers. \$2.75.

There is so much to be proud of in these three accounts of how a young, naive Polish lieutenant, the called president of the Basque Republic and a Polish journalist foiled the Nazi behemoth that one can only hope that some of the courage, daring and even nobility that shines through the pages of their books will also throw light on the tables around which the diplomats and statesmen will eventually gather to draw up the political settlements for peace.

Here, immediate is its terror, cataloging all the instruments of personal violence, the bloody Nazi murdering machine. Karski felt its



full impact on his own body. Gestapo fists smashed out his teeth. On his wrists are the scars left by the suicidal razors with which he tried to escape from intolerable brutality.

Karski was swept along with thousands of other Poles who were taken prisoner by the advancing Russians. Sent back to German-held Poland, he managed to escape from the prison train and to find his way back to Warsaw, where he joined the underground resistance forces. For three years he served the "secret state" as propagandist and courier and his account of this outlaw government, which published newspapers, conducted schools and even floated buses behind the backs of the Nazis, is an inspiring tribute to a people from whose ranks there never emerged a quaking.

Jose de Aguirre, leader of the people who inhabited the small republic in the Western Spanish Pyrenees, typifies the proud nationalism and devout Catholicism of the Basques. These are the people who were destined to taste the first deliberately planned terror from the air when on April 26, 1937, their capital, the open city of Gernika, was laid low by Nazi bombers.

With his family, de Aguirre was caught in the tightening trap around Dunkerque. With Franco's firing squad a certainty if he were captured and the danger rapidly increasing in France and Belgium, he made the audacious decision to escape to Berlin. There, behind a large mustache and eye-glasses, he spent five months, after which he was able to make his way to Sweden and later to this country.

Janta also practiced deception when, he was taken prisoner after the fall of France. Knowing that he faced almost certain death as a Pole, he suddenly became Rene Monnot, Frenchman. Then, for one year, he lived that life as a German slave in the service of the Schmalz family.

In all three books the backbone of the people of Hollywood thrillers are present in such abundance that there is danger readers not will take the real thing for the synthetic product. But these are full of the kind of suspense that no fiction or film can match. While de Aguirre's book also offers a clear-headed analysis of how the democratic and the Catholic world were prevented from understanding the true role of France as the "Spanish

## Remember!

By MAX PRESS

Write it down and keep the record so you will not forget. Now forgive too easily in that hour when their sun is set.

Remember Nanking: her winding streets that ran with rivers red, swollen and choked with the bodies of the dying and the dead.

Remember Lidice and the dying piled so high at the wall That the gunners grew sick at their guns as they watched them die.

Remember Vienna, city of music, color, light, Darkened and stilled and mourning for her soul lost in the night.

Remember Poland ravished and despoiled, where life was cheap—Prostrate and stripped of all but hands to write and eyes to weep.

Remember France and the remnants of her shattered pride—The legions that encamped and the light of the world that died.

Remember Belgium going down under fire and sword.

The doomed and faithful trying to stem the rush of the hordes.

Remember Rotterdam, bombed and battered to a fiery hell.

The cries of the dying as they writhed in her flaming shell.

Remember Yugoslavia where, with the expiring breath,

They spat defiance at the hangmen in the face of death.

Remember Greece, who held the torch of liberty so high—

Brave little Greece who taught men how to live and how to die.

Remember Norway, the peaceful, the friendly, the proud, the free—

And the traitors who hacked a path through her heart for the hordes from the sea.

Remember Pearl Harbor, the treacherous, the coward attack—

The faces that talked and smiled, the hands that stabbed in the back.

There stands the record of treachery and death: do not forget. Nor forgive too easily in that hour when their sun is set.

savior" of the faith and Karski's work has some revealing tangential remarks on the disturbing rivalry in Polish politics, these personal narratives will remain unforgettable records of a nightmare period in world history.

## LONDON LETTER

HERBERT TRACEY

London, December 2, 1944

In the annual report of Britain's Chief Inspector of Factories, reference is made to evidence from many districts that industrial changes during the war years will react strongly on conditions and standards in the older staple trades of the nation. The report points out that many workers in these trades have experienced conditions in the newer type of factories, and will not readily return to the congested workrooms and poor standards which were sometimes



their experience in the older industries.

In fairness to the latter, the Chief Inspector adds that management in the older factories is aware of the necessity of improvement. Employers had to live through the lean years between the two wars and were then hampered by old and ill-adapted buildings and equipment; the Second World War came before they had time to bring their establishments up to the standards that have been legislated in Britain. A good many improvements have been introduced in consequence of the introduction of women and the development of personnel management and welfare supervision.

## Improvement On Old-Style Tenements

A most important suggestion in the report concerns post-war planning in factory construction. It may revolutionize certain industries. The suggestion refers to plans that are being considered in some quarters for the construction on bombed sites or elsewhere of what might be termed "communal factory buildings."

The idea is to erect structures of well-designed rooms in convenient sizes, with good facilities for heating, ventilation, lighting, cleaning, maintenance and so on, and to rent them to the smaller type of factory occupier. It is proposed that

the communal factory be constructed as a self-contained unit with communal canteen on the top floor as well as other improvements such as sanitary and washing facilities.

The occupiers would also have the advantage of modern lay-out, power, hoists and other labor-saving machinery—equipment that makes for economical production. It may well be that such units, devoted to the cleaner kinds of trades, may go some way towards easing the transport problems of Britain's large industrial towns.

## Accidents Among Women Workers

The Chief Inspector's report again records an increase in the number of industrial accidents befalling women workers in the industries that are now the main source of industrial casualties among female labor are the machine-making, engineering and metal trades. Accidents, which for women in these trades vary markedly between different districts.

In this connection, it is relevant to note the Chief Inspector's sardonic observation that the current fashions in hairdressing remain about as unfortunate as they could be in a period when so many additional women are working in machine shops. Accidents caused by the hair of women workers entangled in machinery are particularly distressing, and invite serious consideration to the person concerned but often also to her workmates. In one reported case the equivalent of a week's production of a whole shop was lost as a consequence of such an accident.

## New Ministry of Social Insurance

What the British Trades Union Congress describes as the "greatest single advance ever made in this or any other country in the development of social insurance" now engages the attention of Parliament. A bill to establish a Ministry of Social Insurance is already before the House of Commons. Two days' debates were given last week to the Government's scheme to establish an enlarged and unified system of social insurance and family allowances, the principles of which have been published in a White Paper; and a scheme of insurance against industrial injury, to take the place of the present system of workmen's compensation, is also now being discussed in Parliament.

These related schemes have been warmly welcomed by the General Council of the Trades Union Congress, who have placed on record their view that in its scope and comprehensiveness the social insurance scheme has not been surpassed in any country. It brings the whole population within its coverage; its aim is to fit a comprehensive system of social insurance into the Government's program of post-war reconstruction.

The principles underlying the Government's scheme are largely those upon which Sir William Beveridge based his famous report. It is generally agreed that before the war, poverty afflicted households of two kinds—those in which the breadwinner was ill, out of work, or past working age; and those in which the number of children attended the available resources of the household. These are the disabilities against which the Government proposes to insure the entire population, in a single comprehensive, universal scheme.

...detests high heels, has men debase themselves by woman is apt to excite pleasure from the exhibit



Picture, Museum of Modern Art  
Carmen La Original Vesp  
Femme Waist  
Robinson Woman Worn by  
Century New Guinea  
Native

could have constituted an insurmountable obstacle to the invention of the hosiery carriage.

Actually the truth is that clothing is a style, quality, cut, color, line and price—a self subject to the same influences which determine and other phases of our daily life. If Mr. Rudofsky doesn't like machine-made imitations of handmade articles which, he says, "have been acceptable to people of good taste," then his sharps should be aimed at the machine civilization trip produces them.

Basically what is wrong with machine-made garments is not clear then the evidence in the exhibit. A sock cutting-room quip is related in one panel headed, "We don't know any better way of using a fabric than cutting it to pieces." But some of the worst examples of "the cabalistic art of the tailor" are drawn from the eras when cutting was done by short knife and finger meant vocalizer, not sewing-machine.

There is nothing in the definition of machine-made clothes that requires them to be of poor design

**Design for Embroidery**  
Tattoo design made by a native of the Easter Islands.

or quality. If machine-made clothing has faults, those faults are the ones that affect other commodities in a commodity-buying and selling economy. But even on that score, the argument of the exhibit is not entirely sound.

That old thunderer, Carlyle, spoke eloquent truth when he said that the who first shortened the labor of Europe . . . was disbanding three Armies, and coarsening most Kings and Senates, and creating a new Democratic world."

Apparently the exhibit suffers from the same weakness that almost always characterizes studies of apparel in the Western world—

(Continued on Page 12)

## "The Big Gun"



WAGNER-MURRAY-DINGELL BILL

DISEASE

SEAWAN

# THE SOUTHWEST

## PACT RENEWALS BRING BENEFITS TO SHOPS THROUGHOUT DISTRICT

Important wage and vacation gains for the workers of the Gernes Garment Co., Kansas City, have been secured in the renewal of the union's agreement at this plant. Cutters and other time-workers receive a 7 1/2 per cent increase, with a similar increase to be paid to piece-workers 2 over and above their present earnings.

The agreement establishes a two-week vacation with pay for workers employed by the firm at least five years, and continues the existing provision allowing one week with pay for those employed a year or more.

### Sparta Renewal

Under a new agreement reached on Nov. 27 between the union and the Lowenbaum Manufacturing Co. the workers in this firm's plant at Sparta, Ill., will receive back pay retroactive to Oct. 1, 1943.

### Co-Ed Frocks

Two renewed agreements covering the Co-Ed Frocks plants in Whitehall and Assumption, Ill., were signed on Dec. 2. They provide for an increase in minimum wages and a continuance of annual paid vacations. Elizabeth Kimmel, of the Southwestern regional staff, is in charge of the Co-Ed locals.

### Betty Maid Dress

Standard benefits for the workers of the Betty Maid Dress Co. have been demanded by the union in negotiations with the employer. These requests include a wage readjustment for various workers, two weeks' vacation with pay for those employed five years or more, and the establishment of a health fund. Betty Maid operates plants in Henderson, Ky., McLennan and Shawnee, Mo., Ill.

### St. Paul Cutters Reward Sam Nash With \$25 Bond

A \$25 war bond was presented by Local 244, Cutters, of St. Paul, Minn., to Sam Nash in appreciation of his services as former vice president of the local. The occasion was a dinner held in his honor on November 28.

### Local 311 Bowling Along

A bowling team has been organized for the first time by Local 311, Freeburg, Ill., under the direction of Irene McKinley. In addition to tournaments among its own members, the team plans to compete with other kegging outfits.

## BACK PAY DELAY IN SAN ANTONIO GETS TOO UMPIRE

The long-standing dispute over back pay between the union and the San Antonio Manufacturers' Association will be the subject of arbitration proceedings scheduled to begin on Dec. 21. In accordance with provisions in the agreement, Dr. T. S. Painter, acting president of the University of Texas, has designated Prof. Joseph A. Wickes, a member of his faculty, as arbitrator in the matter.

The union's claim is based on the failure of several San Antonio employers to distribute full back pay to their workers as ordered by a directive of the War Labor Board.

After making repeated demands on the employers without results, the union has resorted to arbitration proceedings. The arbitration hearings will be held at the Plaza Hotel in San Antonio.

### Local 372 Sets Goal As Mt. Vernon Labor Temple

Planning the erection of a labor temple in Mt. Vernon, Ill., Local 372, of that city, has begun a drive for funds for that purpose. Reba Malone, education director of the local, is guiding the campaign. Since November 20, when the drive was opened, a substantial amount of money has been raised.

### Artists at Easels



Members of Kansas City I.L.G. Art Class meet every Monday for a two-hour session with their instructor, Miss Martha Abbott. Pastel and water color techniques are being mastered.

## PSYCHOLOGY COURSE FEATURES HOUSTON'S EDUCATION PROGRAM

The educational program for the current season sponsored by Local 214, Houston, Tex., is featured by a course in psychology for members of the local. The first session was held last month, with Dr. Richard O. Jonas as the instructor.

The inauguration of the local's educational program was the occasion of a reunion of Local 214 officers, past and present. Among those who celebrated the opening of classes were Mary Jane Miller, first manager of the local, who is now teaching school in Houston; Elizabeth White, who recently retired as manager; Lucille McAbbot, present manager; and Velma McGivier, secretary of the I.L.G. locals in Dallas.

### WLB Oakes Increases For Banner Mail and Gross Sport Workers

Wage increases and annual vacations with pay for the workers of the Gross Sportwear Co., St. Louis, have been ratified by a directive of the War Labor Board issued on November 17.

On the same date the Board gave partial approval to wage increases for cutters, time-workers and piece-workers employed by the Banner Mail Co., St. Louis.

### S'west Locals Encourage Moral With Sport Plans

Realizing that good health is also an important factor in sound industrial relations, numerous recreational activities have been organized by Local 329, Millstadt, Local 18, Salem, and Local 330, Forest City, all of Illinois.

## The Spirit of St. Louis



Free and open discussions on important issues of the day are conducted at the St. Louis I.L.G.W.U. Open Forum. Above, Mayor A. P. Kaufmann is shown addressing the series of meetings on November 30 in the Canteen Room of union headquarters. Seated, left to right are Frank Elliott, manager, St. Louis Cotton Joint Board, Vice President Meyer Perlstein, Howard Elliot, counsel for the employers' association, and Sol Mellman, president; Sili Dress Joint Board.

## FORUMS BRING LIGHT

Open Discussions Sponsored in Southwest District Lectures Shared by Union and General Public Are Big I.L.G. Contribution to Broadened Horizons

By MEYER PERLSTEIN, V.P. Southwest Regional Director

As a means of stimulating our members to discuss some of the intricate problems that humanity has tried for centuries to solve, open forums have been organized throughout the Southwest District. Aside from their intellectual content, these forums are successful in forming another link between the union and the public.

## INDUSTRY PEACE IS ENHANCED BY DINNER PARLEYS

In Kansas City labor-management cooperation was signalled at a dinner meeting at the Hotel Continental on Nov. 28. Present and post-war problems of mutual importance to both workers and employers were outlined by speakers representing each group involved. Union officers, manufacturers, production managers and shop chairmen participated in the general discussion that followed the main speeches.

A union proposal was accepted by the manufacturers to set up a joint course in applied industrial psychology and shop management for shop chairmen, production managers and foremen. Arrangements to establish these classes are being made by a joint committee.

**Kansas City Plans**

A labor-management meeting in Minneapolis was held on Dec. 11, attended by officers of the Minnesota employer association and by representatives of the union, including shop chairmen and production managers. The agenda covered a general review of the recent situation and a survey of future steps for the continuance of harmonious relations between labor and management in the Minneapolis garment industry.

## ST. LOUIS FIRMS ACT TO DEVELOP CITY AS MAJOR FASHION SITE

A strong move to promote St. Louis as a style and production center for the women's garment industry was made this month when incorporation papers were filed for the establishment of a Fashion Creators' group. The new organization includes not only all members of the St. Louis Dress Manufacturers' Association but also several companies not so affiliated. Among the latter are the Forest City, the Rice-Stix and the Ely-Walker firms.

The incorporation steps were taken on December 1, through Howard Elliott, attorney for the manufacturers' association.

Prominent men and women, leaders of thought in their communities, address the forums on selected subjects. The union insists that the forums be used for the practical presentation of ideas and information, but not for propaganda purposes in any sense. These meetings are held at I.L.G.W.U. headquarters after working hours in conjunction with a "poor man's" supper, which is prepared and served by members of the union.

The first meeting of the St. Louis forum was heavily attended by shop chairmen, local officers and union members. It was addressed by A. P. Kaufmann, mayor of St. Louis, and by Howard Elliott, who is the speaker of the Missouri House of Representatives as well as counsel for the Dress Manufacturers' Association. Mayor Kaufmann, who initiated a municipal Fair Employment Practice Committee to promote better racial relationships, expressed himself as "much impressed" with the practical participation by our union to foster tolerance and understanding among the different elements in our ranks. His speech was warmly welcomed by the audience.

Mr. Elliott reviewed the historical growth of the region, showing how patterns of social behavior were created by the first settlers of the territory in their struggle to adjust themselves to a new environment. Analyzing the problems of the past, he also showed the change of things to come. The lively discussion that followed these talks is clear proof of the informative value represented by our forums.

The same thing is true of our Kansas City forum, where Margaret Elizabeth Monchouse, exchange delegate of the Workers' Educational Bureau, was the chief speaker last month. Her subject was a general description of the British labor movement. The presence of a number of prominent citizens of Kansas City on this occasion is indicative of the growing international horizon being encouraged by the I.L.G.W.U. among all members of the district.

In Dallas, where this type of forum has been functioning for some time, attendance at meetings is increasing steadily. It is gradually drawing the attention of the general public, in addition to sharpening the interest of union members in important topics.

It is the gratifying results of these forums to see the membership showing such great eagerness to acquire knowledge and clarify their attitudes on essential and urgent problems. Groups of men and women from the shops linger after the meetings are over to discuss the ideas presented and to exchange views. In fact, some of the women who ordinarily rush home to take care of their household obligations seem tempted to stay as long as possible, so deep has their interest become.

Those connected with arranging the forums derive real satisfaction from the pleasing spectacle of union workers and officers systematically increasing their knowledge and developing their social understanding.

### Wilma Gates, I.L.G. Pioneer in St. Louis, Has Wedding

Wilma Custer Gates, an outstanding member of Local 104, St. Louis, has been receiving congratulations from her numerous union friends in the dress industry on her marriage recently. T. J. Abbott, committee of the David French Dress firm is especially proud of Sister Gates, who is one of the pioneers of the I.L.G. in the dress field.

# Fall River Health Center to Serve 7 New England Cities

Representing an investment of \$30,000, the Union Health Center at Fall River, Mass., will serve 4,000 ILGWU members throughout the area. Located in the union's headquarters, it has been acclaimed a superb example of modern medical and technical facilities.

Planned under the supervision of Dr. Leo Price, it is patterned on the New York Union Health Center and contains a complete layout. It includes an X-ray department which has its own dark room, equipment with all devices for general diagnostic work, a reception room, several rest rooms for patients, a full eye-examination set-up and a laboratory with every necessary clinical instrument. Physical therapy, basal metabolism and electro-cardiography facilities are provided in separate departments.

The Health Center will be in charge of Dr. Samuel Brown, one of Fall River's most eminent physicians. Associates on the staff are Dr. John G. Corrigan and Dr. George Kinnel. The Center has two full-time medical aides—a nurse and a laboratory technician.

The new medical institution will serve all locals affiliated with the District Council of Southern Massachusetts and Rhode Island. This includes Locals 178, 222 and 324, embracing members living in Fall River, New Bedford and Taunton in Massachusetts and Providence, Warren, Pawtucket and West Warwick in Rhode Island. The majority of these workers live within an 18-mile radius of the Health Center.

Medical schedules already in operation will keep the Center open for patients five evenings a week from 1 to 9 o'clock, as well as Saturday mornings. Special appointments will also be given when necessary.

The Fall River Health Center came into being to answer the needs of wage-earners, for whom no proper medical routine have existed. Garment workers in that area will now receive this attention as a matter of right provided for in the collective union agreements with local employers. It is part of the general

## HEALTH CENTER IS BYCOME OF 10 YEARS' TOIL

(Continued from Page 3)

pose of the Health Center, he explained, "is to prevent people from falling ill and losing pay. That is why our program is more inclusive than the usual health plan.

"When conditions permit, we hope to widen it so that it may embrace hospital and surgical aid as well. With the continued cooperation of workers and employers in Fall River there is no doubt of further progress along these lines."

Demmond Bagger, president of Local 178, was chairman of the evening proceedings, and was warmly congratulated on both his skill and his record of service to the union. He presented gifts to Pres. Dubinsky, Director Gingsold and Dr. Price, consisting of an antique silver and tray for the ILO chief, a velvet statuette for the Cotton Garment head and a medical watch for the Union Health Center director.

### Gifts for Veterans

The 110 members who have belonged to the local for ten years were given handsome gold bracelets, suitably inscribed. They were presented individually by Pres. Dubinsky with a hearty handshake and a warm word of greeting for each one.

Manager Frederick Slens drew great applause when he summed up the career of the ILO in the Fall River area by saying: "From nothing at all we have grown until we are powerful and respected in the community and in the industry. The secret of our success is simple. It is teamwork."

### Gift Expresses Meaning Of "Full Bread Basket"

At the banquet celebrating the opening of the Fall River Union Health Center, Demmond Bagger, president of Local 178, presented an antique silver bread tray to Pres. Dubinsky as a token of the membership's appreciation of his leadership. Made in England in 1790, the tray bears a highly modern inscription. It reads: "To David Dubinsky, who has helped fill many a bread basket."

"We offer deep gratitude to Pres. Dubinsky for the high standards he has set in the ILGWU, standards which we have steadfastly followed," said Bagger in his presentation remarks.

Editorial from "Herald News," Fall River, Mass., Dec. 11, 1944.

### Health Center for Workers

The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union has exhibited progressiveness through opening of a health center for members in its headquarters here. It is in keeping with the national movement to improve medical services for everybody, to reduce the frequency of illnesses and forestall sickness. It is emphasized that the union arrangement is not to become a dispensary, but will be engaged in discovering physical conditions that warrant attention, or diagnosing ailments that demand immediate treatment or surgery in hospitals or clinics. The well-being of the members of the union can be protected by the excellent arrangements that have been made. The co-operation of the employers of the union members, who provided the union with funds for the project, will be fully appreciated and is worthy of commendation.

(Other articles relating to opening of Fall River Health Center on pages 1 and 3).

## HEALTH DAY IN FALL RIVER

- 1. Pres. Dubinsky unveiling tablet at Health Center dedication ceremony.
- 2. Nurse testing X-ray machine at Center.
- 3. Pauline Newman, of N. Y. Health Center, inspecting equipment.
- 4. L. to r.—Will Ross, Pres. Dubinsky, Fred Umber, David Gingsold.
- 5. Dr. Leo Price, N. Y. Health Center director, using all-lamp to examine member's eyes.



- 6. L. to r.—Mrs. A. C. Murray, wife of Fall River mayor; Rose Travis, Mrs. Grace Hartley Howe, Fall River postmaster.
- 7. Pres. Dubinsky receiving antique silver breadbasket, gift from Fall River ILGWU.
- 8. L. to r.—Dr. Leo Price, Pres. Dubinsky, Mayor Murray.
- 9. Group of Fall River garment employers looking over Center's instruments.
- 10. Fred Slens, local manager, at extreme left.



## Literary Tea for Pesotta Best-Seller



New York's literary critics witnessed something new in tea when the authors of Friedman and Bucholz celebrated publication of "Bread Upon the Waters" with smiles and celery tonic. The epic opus by Rose Pesotta, former ILGWU Vice President, describes the last decade of garment-worker activities and history. In the language of Seventh Ave., the book has clicked and has become one of the season's runners.

## ROSE PESOTTA VIVIDLY DEPICTS LABOR IN "BREAD UPON WATERS"

Rose Pesotta has written a book, a full-size volume, covering the past ten years of her life as a "field" organizer for the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. She frankly admits that, not being a professional writer, she needed and got a great deal of collaboration in turn-

ing out her opus. Still, the book, "Bread Upon the Waters" (Dodd, Mead, \$3.00), is unmistakably Rose Pesotta. Doubtless, had she not been in writing this book, she clearly is too young to think of memoirs or of an autobiography. It can hardly be believed, knowing her as I do, that Rose Pesotta has turned the last page in her life's story. She still has a substantial reservoir of energy and drive left for several more chapters of the turbulent building activity which so typifies Rose Pesotta's brisk career along life's pathways. She still has a good deal of "bread" to cast upon the "waters" through which her vessel plies. Her work is far from finished.

What Miss Pesotta apparently wished to depict is the odyssey of a woman organizer at work in the American labor scene of the past decade; bucking ordinary and extraordinary obstacles optimized in employer, police, court and press opposition; coming to grips with the labor and obstacles that are part of the back-breaking job of "selling" the union to factory girls; and last, but not least, keeping an even keel and a level head in the face of the union-against-union quarrels and squabbles that have embittered the heart of many a union quarrel in recent years.

Such a story could hardly have been written by an outsider, no matter how gifted and observant. It could hardly have been done by an "intellectual" with temporary or permanent lodging in the trade union fold; it could not have been written by a union executive with a wide, over-all vantage whose eye cannot be riveted down to the minor tribulations and joys which beset the field worker. It could be done, and has been done capably and engagingly — only by a militant labor militancy of the type of Rose Pesotta.

## LOCAL 22'S DUES STREAMED BY BENEFITS

(Continued from Page 5)

the first nine months of 1944, he pointed out, they had been a drop of 1,235 applicants, involving a decline of over \$26,000 in income for the local.

Manager Zimmerman therefore suggested a new financial adjustment. His first proposal was to combine into one sum the various payments members now make to the local. Instead of the five separate categories now used — weekly dues, monthly payment to the organization fund, monthly payment to the local's sick-benefit fund, semi-annual contribution to labor causes and another semi-annual payment for death benefits — they would all be merged.

Pointing out that these five obligations together amounted to \$35.20 a year for the major crafts and \$30 a year for the minor crafts, Zimmerman showed that under the proposed consolidation, the workers would pay less than the major crafts \$34.80 and the minor crafts \$29.60. In view of the absorption of sick-benefit functions by the recently established health fund, Zimmerman further proposed that the local's own sick-benefit system be abolished and the sick-benefit fund reserve added to the general local reserve fund. He also said that such steps should include an increase in dues so that a member would hereafter be entitled to a total of \$300, consisting of \$150 from the International and \$150 from the local.

## Steps Enacted

Manager Zimmerman's report, including the proposals for consolidation of payments and the abolition of the local's own sick-benefit system, was unanimously approved by the membership.

## In the Market

(Continued from Page 9)

the clothing of those with means is taken as representative of clothing worn by the entire population.

The mass of population in the Western Hemisphere better clothed today than at any other time in history, and this doesn't mean that there isn't room for improvement. But the chiton that is favored by the exhibit is a suitable and dignified as starkly worn to the era of Pallas Athene.

In spite of these shortcomings, the exhibit remains one of the most challenging ever to be mounted by any of New York's museums and a visit to 11 West 53rd St. is definitely in order. One of the great orders of human conduct, the fact that establishes decency and modesty or protection as the primary urge to clothe, is demonstrated by fascinating exhibits showing body painting, tattooing, cicatrization, mutilation and deformation among primitive peoples.

In one hall, the topography of modesty is presented through two eight-foot human figures which depict variations of dress in time, place and fashion. In a small corridor there are figures representing the female body reconstructed to fit the clothing of certain periods. The climax of this exhibition is the human foot made symmetrical in the putting big toe in the center of the foot in order to conform to the design of the pointed shoe.

Talbot and traditions are displayed in panels showing that the Western identification of skirts with femininity and trousers with masculinity is reversed in the Oriental world. Symbols are shown to be slavishly observed in civilized dress in the paraphernalia of any primitive tribe. The elegant exterior poodles of today which would be rubbed off to primitive skins are chiefly symbols of a past function.

Patterns come in for a merciless discussion and analysis. Pattern mazes of several generations ago with a bewildering array of ac-

## Truckload of Health HEALTH for VICTORY

Your Purchase of CHRISTMAS SEALS Makes This Chest X-Ray Server Positive



Members of Los Angeles Sportswear Local 266 sign up for free chest X-ray examinations. With the cooperation of the Los Angeles Tuberculosis and Health Association, a mobile X-ray unit, the back of which may be seen in picture, was parked in the shipping department of a building in which five sportswear shops are located.

## 14,000 GARMENTS SHIPPED TO ITALY BY CLOAK JT. BD.

(Continued from Page 7)

at the meaning of fear, hunger and cold.

Justice Marchionni reported that American Relief for Italy already has sent five shiploads of food, clothing and medical supplies to Italy. The 14,000 garments are part of a sixth shipload now being prepared. The plight of the Italian people, which he saw on his recent trip overseas, he said, is beyond description. "Fully half of the 27,000,000 people of liberated Italy are without shelter. Deaths from tuberculosis have increased 300 per cent in the last year. Forty-seven per cent of the infants born last year died before their first birthday."

Molteni extended the thanks of the relief organization to Pres. Duhrinsky and Vice Presidents Antonini and Peinberg for their part in rallying the membership behind the drive and to Giuseppe Pope for the effective publicity his paper has given to the relief undertaking.

Vice Pres. Antonini recalled some incidents on his recent visit to Italy which emphasized the feeling of friendship the people of that nation have for the United States. Pres. Duhrinsky reviewed the recent activities of the ILGWU and pointed out that as the various military campaigns become more intense, the cry for help from the liberated peoples grows louder. "Our desire to help is not circumscribed by any consideration of race or nationality. The help we offer comes from a group in America who well understand the meaning of democracy and freedom. To those who have been deprived of these blessings we shall continue to extend a helping hand. Our own freedom and well-being remain insecure so long as theirs are jeopardized," he declared.

chemical gadgets to fit the pattern to all sizes and shapes are displayed. Patterns from 1944 to 1943 are traced on the walls and resemble the most extreme flights of fancy by modern painters.

The exhibit is highly enjoyable and full of fun. But it still remains a moot question whether the revolutionary changes which would be prerequisite to the adoption of these reforms can originate in a museum. Visitors will look and laugh and walk the half-block to Fifth Avenue to do some honest-to-goodness window-shopping.

## INSIDE WASHINGTON

(Continued from Page 8)

policy of coercion being urged by the military brass-hats.

To this day, no effort has been made to find a solution to the manpower shortages along the lines recommended by the Labor Division.

Four months ago Donald Nelson spearheaded the drive that fought off the effort of the military brass-hats to force labor conscription as a first people by way of meeting their need instead of by legislation. After winning that fight, Donald Nelson was kicked upstairs to get him out of the way. With Donald Nelson out of the way for several months now, the military brass-hats apparently are renewing their anti-democratic tactics. And with better hope it succeeds this time.

## Shore Urges Help At Undie Firms Pledge \$15,000 for L. A. San

At a luncheon session on Dec. 12 marking the opening of the drive for the Los Angeles Sanatorium, lingerie, negligee and underwear manufacturers in New York pledged \$15,000.

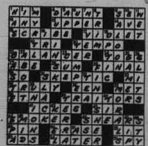
The meeting, held at the McAlister Hotel, was presided over by Michael Schneider, chairman of the drive campaign, and the principal speaker was Samuel Shore, manager of Local 82, Undergarment and Negligee Workers' Union.

Shore told the gathering that the need for the sanatorium has never been as great as it is today and expressed on the manufacturers that they must think of the home front along with their generous response to causes in connection with war relief.

## ILG Now Represents Birmingham Store's Alteration Workers

The ILGWU was certified by the National Labor Relations Board to have been selected by a majority of the employees of the Louis P. Dry Goods Co., Birmingham, Ala., engaged as sewers, fitters, cutters, pressers and alteration employees in all the sewing and alteration departments in the company's department store, excluding all supervisory employees, as their exclusive representative for the purpose of collective bargaining.

## "JUSTICE" PUZZLE ANSWER



(Puzzle on page 11)

Back em Up!  
KEEP BUYING WAR BONDS



# International Activities

## ECONOMIC SOLUTIONS EXPERTLY DISCUSSED IN TWO NEW STUDIES

Two leading authorities on social and economic problems have new publications which deserve careful attention from everybody concerned with labor subjects. They are as interesting to the average student union member as to general students.

### History By Laidler

Dr. Harry W. Laidler, a veteran investigator and student of social life in the United States, has written a valuable book, "Social and Economic Movements" (Gravell, \$3.00), which deserves a place in all local union libraries. Every proposal for social change, from Plato's "Republic" and Sir Thomas More's "Utopia" down to the TVA, receives attention in the work which demonstrates the keen insight, industry and scholarship of the author.

Dr. Laidler analyzes movements for social change not only in the United States but also in England, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, thus making his book a world-wide survey.

ILOW teachers and members will find "Laidler's volume invaluable as a source of reference, as well as an inspiration to face the various social changes intelligently.

M. S.

### Progress Via Reaction

Magna Gordon's book, "Thought To Progress From Reaction" (Dutton, \$3.00), is a sincere and thought-provoking extension into the cauldron of the perfect society of the future. Its chief value comes from the author's insistence that no society can make its members truly happy unless it guarantees, besides a lot of bread, the largest measure of freedom compatible with the disciplines of efficient human organization. "Dictatorship of the proletariat" can easily, almost inevitably, become dictatorship over the proletariat. Miss Gordon rejects socialism in terms of compulsion and over-all government ownership and control. Miss Gordon's pattern for the "road to progress" is the partial socialism of industry and a far-flung program of social, economic and welfare measures benefiting the entire people and protected by a working political democracy. It is a book no student of labor problems can afford to miss. It should be found in every ILOW local library.

M. D. D.

### ILOW Discount

These books may be obtained at a substantial discount by ordering them singly or in quantity through the Educational Dept. of the ILOW, 1710 Broadway, New York City.

### PANEL DISCUSSION

The next panel discussion, which will deal with post-war problems, will examine the various programs and plans suggested to make America a better place for all. This discussion will be held in February. Those who wish to attend should immediately get in touch with the Educational Department, 1710 Broadway, New York City.

### Safe New Year

In commenting on the new safety jacket, "Buddy, Can You Spare a Finger," Pauline Newman, educational director of the New York Union Health Center, said, "No better time for Christmas and the New Year can be distributed to our workers throughout the industry. It is making the least trouble to all visitors and patients at that institution.

## Psychology in the Shop

This is one of the talks given by Dr. Sadie Myers Shellow, consulting psychologist at the Rhea Manufacturing Co., Milwaukee, Wis., during the ILOW Summer Institute at the University of Wisconsin. Her complete syllabus will be sent upon request.

Psychology is the study of human behavior. Just what does psychology have to offer to labor unions? In the first place, it can help them understand the individual problems of their members; in the second place, it can suggest techniques which, in meeting these problems, will make for stronger union and greater loyalty.

At the outset, we must recognize that all people have traits in common, whether they are workers, managers, organizers or educators. To mention a few of our common factors, we all see, feel, hear, think, love, hate, we all have jealous, generous, suspicious. Where we differ is in the way we use the equipment nature has given us, and the emphasis and value we place on each of these factors.

In the growth of the trade union movement, the thought experiment in the minds of the organizers and the workers was the primary need to win an adequate wage. Most of the early strikes were based upon disputes over wages and hours. Today, with government regulations, it has become necessary for union leaders to ask themselves this question: "Sure we can no longer continue to get wage increases, are there other important services we can render to our members which can be of equal importance in strengthening our ranks?" It is at this point that we can put psychology to work.

Outside of the work situation, the union itself can do much to satisfy these needs and maintain a happy union family. Let us list just a few of these needs, and suggest methods of meeting them through union activity.

1. **The Need for Self-Expression.** To himself, each individual is a distinct personality. On the job he becomes one of a shift, or a working group, and has little opportunity to express his individual differences. The union can offer many outlets for self-expression. It can encourage varying activities, such as dramatic group, athletic, poster contests, orchestra programs, writing for the union paper, and countless other projects, which will give those members who have talent an opportunity for self-expression which is repressed during the working day.

## HERE AND THERE

Thanks to the work of Maria Bernhard, warmly supported by Manager Charles Krieffler and his colleagues, Local 25, Blooms and Waistmakers, Inc. is making the educational bell ring with the formation of a chorus, a well-attended current events class and a large enrollment for bowling and athletic activity. . . . Lowell, Mass., reports a successful swimming group, dance class and glee club. . . . Boston's ILC Chorus will serenade the patients at the Waltham Veterans Hospital. Boston maintains a class in parliamentary law, conducts regular chorus rehearsals and continues its dances for service men. . . . The Philadelphia dressmakers, under the direction of Abe Belsky, are getting ready for an extensive educational program.

### Briton Grets Club 22



Dorothy L. Harmshaw of the British Ministry of Information is an after-meeting huddle with members of Club 22. Subject of her address on Nov. 29 was "British Women at War." In the group are (left to right) Gertrude Oltowitz, president of Club 22, Ursula Kinski, Miss Harmshaw, Esther Epstein and Jeanette Smith.

## WEST MANHATTAN CENTER MEETS ON TUESDAYS AT 6 P.M.

A special course in history will be given at the Educational and Recreational Center, Flett High School, 18th St. between 4th and 5th Aves., on Tuesdays at 6:30 P.M. There will be four sessions covering the following topics: What is American civilization? What does the "American Way" mean? What are the distinctive features of our democracy? Why do we refer to our country as a "democracy" instead of a "republic"?

For further information, inquire at the Educational Department, 1710 Broadway.

## Mrs. Lieberman Sets Next Biology Course On Wednesday Eves.

The heavy attendance at the seventh and final session of the class taught by Mrs. Dorothy Lieberman on "How the Body Works" on Thursday, Dec. 7, was definite evidence of the deep interest her course has aroused among members of the Women's Service Brigade. The film, "Know for Sure," illustrated the closing talk, which dealt with the prevention of diseases.

Members of the Brigade who were unable to attend the Thursday night classes have asked that the course be repeated on a more convenient evening and tentative arrangements are being made to run the class on Wednesdays, beginning Jan. 3.

The Educational Department and students of the class have joined in expressing their appreciation of Mrs. Lieberman's efforts, which included the use of exhibits, charts and movies that she obtained from various museums and public health agencies.

Buy bonds till it hurts—the enemy.

## ILG INSTITUTE SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE SEN. WAGNER, W. H. DAVIS, ERIC JOHNSTON, SEN. BALL, HENRY KAISER, PROF. PERLMAN,

The ILOW Officers' Institute will inaugurate its 1945 sessions on Jan. 12 with an impressive list of speakers who are outstanding in their special fields.

"These speakers will be among the best that we have so far been able to introduce to our union leaders and members," said Vice Pres. Julius Hochman, chairman of the OER Education Committee, in announcing the details of the course, which will be held on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings for several weeks. The sessions will be held in Studio A, 1710 Broadway, at 2:30 P.M. on Fridays and 11:00 A.M. on Saturdays.

Prof. Selig Perlman, of the University of Wisconsin, will open the series as he did last year, speaking on the subject, "Will the 1944 Political Situation Occur Again?" At the following session on Saturday morning he will discuss the question, "Can Government Dominate Industrial Relations?"

Sen. Joseph H. Ball, of Minnesota, will address the Institute on Jan. 19, on the topic, "Trade Unions and Freedom." Post-war job prospects will be discussed on Jan. 26 by Henry J. Kaiser, the shipbuilder, while on Feb. 16 and 23, respectively, W. H. Davis, chairman of the National War Labor Board, and

Eric A. Johnston, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, will be the main speakers.

In addition to other authorities on various current topics, the Institute will hear Dr. Michael A. Davis discuss "Labor Plans for Public Health" and Sen. Robert F. Wagner describe "Labor Needs in Social Security."

## Know Your City

### Our Saturday Visits To Points of Interest

December 30 at 2:30 P.M. Hayden Planetarium, 79th St. and Central Park West, New York City. The 7th and 8th Avenue subways. Meet in lobby.

Jan. 6 at 2:30 P.M. WEVD broadcasting studio, 117 West 46th St. This is the only radio station with a labor plant.

For further information, inquire at Educational Department, 1710 Broadway, New York City.

# WOMEN

SUSAN WHITE

"It's hard to see how Congress can do anything but approve the Equal Rights Amendment when it votes within the next few weeks on submitting the amendment to the states," says the Scripps-Howard press. "During the war, women have been thrust by circumstances into positions of great responsibility in industry, finance and the professions. And on the whole, women have measured up. Lawmakers should recognize these facts and take the first step to providing equality under the law for women."

That is what we call a super-practical statement. It is the very essence of the viewpoint of America's commercial press—a sound, middle-class view of things, a business-man's approach to a business-man's problem.

This Scripps-Howard editorial breathes a sigh of relief. It seems to imply that America's businessmen were not at all sure how the women would stack up when faced with the task of conducting important financial affairs, pleading cases in court or acting as officers in America's industrial corporations. But says the editorial, since women have done all these things well, let's admit them to the business fold.

Actually, of course, the editorial is another piece of the half-lying propaganda which the amendment's supporters are cooking up. In our preceding column, we showed how cleverly the National Women's Party is presenting its "case." Suggested by innuendo that, if adopted, the amendment would give women certain definite benefits, as a matter of fact, it would deprive them of these benefits.

Scripps-Howard is playing the same game. In both instances the emphasis is placed on the gratitude which the nation owes to a few women for a superb management job in a difficult period. By inference, both warn that if the Women's Rights Amendment is not enacted, the nation will have been guilty of exploiting women, and it insists that we should be granted the amendment in the same way that veterans are granted a bonus.

The plain fact is that if Congress were to submit the Women's Rights Amendment to the states, it will be giving a slap in the face to every



woman who has gone to work in a defense plant during the war. Every girl who has worked nights and overtime, toiled at the machine over week-ends and holidays, relinquished what small protection the law afforded her before the war, will get as her reward an assurance that she can go on working nights and week-ends lifting weights too heavy for her to carry, neglecting her family and her home. For assuming twentieth-century responsibility, she will be guaranteed by law that no measures shall protect her against twentieth-century sweatshops. The gratitude shown towards her will be a calous warning that henceforth she is to enjoy no protection under the law.

This Scripps-Howard editorial does not say it. It makes no reference at all to the working girl in the way in which she will be affected. And in that, it shows astuteness. For if it were to begin telling about poor waitresses, house day-time wages are so low that they are forced to work nights at higher night-rates in order to earn a living wage; and if it were to refer over the fact that pre-war laws in many states forbade them to resort to such ways of making a livelihood, it would concentrate attention on the low wage-standards in most "female" employments. Attention would be drawn to the fact that, so far as the average woman worker is concerned, the question of wage rates and working conditions is the paramount issue. The public, and perhaps our legislators, might dis-

## Lowdowns and Markdowns

Heating will remain a problem this winter. Coal and fuel oil restrictions cannot yet be relaxed, although some areas will be somewhat better off than they were last year. Fuel oil stocks available for the average home will be slightly more abundant on the East Coast and in the Midwest, and wood supplies seem adequate for most regions except Northeastern, Middle Atlantic and Southern states.

Military needs and defense industry work still demand enormous quantities of fuel. Victory will undoubtedly brighten the heating outlook without delay.

As Christmas approaches, the extra traffic of busy shoppers is becoming a problem to local transit systems throughout the country. The Office of Defense Transportation has issued a list of rules to ease the added burden. The foremost suggestion is that shoppers limit their travel to the hours between 10 A.M. and 4 P.M., when workers are not on their way to and from home.

Other ODT hints are that shopping and mailing of gifts be done as soon before Christmas as possible, that priority seats be taken for boarding vehicles, that cars be ready; that entrances and exits of cars be left clear for other passengers; until one's destination is reached, that cars be kept only when essential and then be shared with other riders; finally, that shoppers should make every effort to carry their own packages.

cover that the real problem is that of bringing up the level of women's real wages and of their employment standards.

The stock reply is that, under this amendment, it would be unconstitutional to pay different rates to men and women for the same type of work. But the reply does not go on to say that, if men and women do the same sort of job, and if the basic rate rests on piece-work, that is a vast number of jobs in which women could not possibly hope to earn as much per hour as men. In foundries and steel mills, for example, women's physical strength would be equal to the pace set by men.

Faced with this argument, supporters of the amendment cock a middle-class eyebrow and ask, "But do you really expect the same wage for less production? And in so doing, they kill their whole case. For there can be no real equality between the sexes in matters economic—too long ago piece-work exists and men and women have to sell their brute strength and their dexterity in a competitive market, and precisely because there is no true equality, because women start off at a disadvantage, there is need for special protective legislation—if only to preserve the face of "fair and free competition" for jobs.

The word "equality" has a good sound, a rich, wholesome flavor. By concentrating their whole emphasis upon obvious inequalities among the professional groups, the Women's Rights Amendment forces have almost succeeded in making the whole nation unwittingly accept the point that their proposal means true equality between men and women.

Unless we increase our pressure immediately, we may be sure that this Scripps-Howard editorial will find a ready response in Congress.

By BETTA BYER

One of the most promising prospects for the post-war era is the growing movement to make modern dwellings available to many millions of families who have never been able to fulfill their desire for a decent home of their own. A vast building program is emerging that will multiply low-cost individual homes throughout the country.

Workers' families can only say that such a program is certainly overdue, and express the hope that there is no catch to it. Under war-time conditions, a shortage of housing facilities in some areas and the deterioration of homes in others have made many of us ready to clutch at straws. But there are some fairly good indications that the problem is due to be alleviated, if not completely solved.

Although war prosperity has obscured the fact that one-third of the nation was for a long time "ill-fed, ill-clothed and ill-housed," we may leave aside the moral considerations connected with a housing scheme for the benefit of the average wage-earner. The stalwart patriotism demonstrated by workers both in battle and in production will, undoubtedly, compel the government to appreciate anew the necessity of fostering the welfare of the mass of its citizens. Steps along this line have already been taken, with housing earmarked for major allocations.

Private interests may have different motives in approaching the problem, but they too are preparing large-scale plans for the construction of low-cost homes. In fact, some far-seeing business leaders believe that the tremendous potentialities of the present housing situation may be the means of avoiding a possible post-war depression. Henry J. Kaiser, the great shipbuilder whose labor relations have been of a really progressive nature, has said that residential construction after the war could do for American economy what the growth of the automobile industry accomplished a generation ago.

Mr. Kaiser's announcement is an encouraging sign of the times. If he can construct homes as well and as rapidly as he has turned out ships for the government, he will be setting a pace that others will be compelled to follow.

Realizing that the average worker



will have to resort to time payments in buying a home, Mr. Kaiser puts proper emphasis on the need for sound lending arrangements to forestall the professional speculation and unscrupulous real-estate-lazy responsible for the type of dwellings that now blight many a community. He calls for the establishment of minimum standards to govern future home-building.

## BRAND NAMES AND GRADE LABELING

Mr. George L. Russell, Jr., president of the John B. Stetson Co., made the following statement recently at the convention of the Association of National Advertisers: "Pastor compulsory grade labeling on industry," said Mr. Russell, "and soon, in place of brand name, classifying, you will have first-class, second-class and third-class manufacturers. Next, first-class, second-class and third-class retailers, and finally consumers will be classified the same way."

The case for grade labeling was made indirectly by Consumer Union's report on dentifrices. Apparently many of the diseases as widely played up by brand-name advertisers just don't exist. "Add mouth," for example turns out to be a normal condition and "mouth bacteria" are quite useful in keeping our mouths healthy. On the other hand, "tooth toothbrush," if continued for any length of time, may indicate a pretty serious ailment and a dentist should be consulted immediately. Dentifrices cannot cure it.

## JUSTICE PUZZLE

By S. F. FILLER

- ACROSS
1. Thal man
  3. Enslavement
  5. Sitch
  7. Some
  9. Higher
  11. Avenue
  13. Writer
  15. Color
  17. Three
  19. (excl's)
  21. Rhythm
  23. Preserver of
  25. Children's
  27. Lincoln's
  29. Tote
  31. Last
  33. Therefore
  35. Musical note
  37. Genuinity
  39. Even (poetic)
  41. Rascalled
  43. Volcano
  45. Betrayers
  47. Secretary of
  49. Semian
  51. Nicotine user

- DOWN
1. Possesses
  3. Incorporated
  5. Girl's name
  7. LLOUW
  9. President
  11. Monkey
  13. On top
  15. At no time
  17. Decorate
  19. Bear's tail
  21. Adam's mate
  23. Drenched
  25. Irish Regu-
  27. British Army
  29. Pertaining to
  31. State of
  33. Hand
  35. Billiard stick
  37. Braver
  39. Narrow
  41. Opening
  43. Hand
  45. English
  47. Labor
  49. Capitalism
  51. Standards
  53. Conductor
  55. Earth
  57. (Latin)
  59. Cravat
  61. Shirts
  63. Bottom
  65. Recort
  67. -iff
  69. Natural
  71. Piece apart
  73. Pig
  75. Y

(Answer is on page 12)

## CONSUMER VIGILANCE ONLY CAN HAT "RERPOINT" MEAT RACKET

There is one penetrating lesson that stands out in the recent expose of the widespread racket of charging red ration points and top-grade prices for utility, ration-free meat. OPA regulations may protect the consumer in theory, but it is up to the consumer to enforce these regula-

The "red" market battens on the fact that the various grades of meat all look alike. The purple government stamp is the only clue to their real grade. In order to protect your shrinking dollar, therefore, you should know the names of the various grades of meat (see box). When buying meat ask to see the label to make sure that if you're getting "utility" meat, you are paying "utility" prices. Where meat is already cut and displayed in a tray, OPA regulations provide that it carry a sign with the grade as well as the price on it.

Check ceiling prices. Your butcher is required to list his ceiling prices in a convenient spot for you to see. Check them to make sure that you are not being over-charged. And then, the final and very important step, report any violations to your rationing board. That is the vital contribution you can make to keep prices down.



## MEAT GRADES

OPA and the government use different names for the same grade. The following list shows the OPA grades and how they are stamped by the government.

- | OPA                | GOVT.         |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Grade AA           | "Choice"      |
| "Grade C"          | "Good"        |
| Grade B            | "Commercial"  |
| Grade C (for beef) | "Utility"     |
| Grade C (for lamb) | "Cull"        |
| Grade D            | "Ration free" |

★YOU LEAD YOUR Money- THEY GIVE THE Lives!



# CUTTERS COLUMN

## LOCAL 10

By ISIDORE NAGLER, V. F.  
Manager, Local 10

We will soon know whether the New York cloak industry's goal of \$12,000,000 in the Sixth War Loan drive has been reached. The amount raised will enable the government to purchase 100 hospital planes in the name of the industry. It would be a wonderful tribute to the seal of the cloak workers if they helped to top the goal by a wide margin. As for the cutters, it is a foregone conclusion that they will do their full share in this as in past war drive drives.

### Munitions Coat Money

The newspapers have recently been carrying stories about an insufficiency of shells and other ammunition on the fighting fronts. Let us make certain that whatever the reason for these shortages, they are not due to any lack of funds by our government. Our military leadership expends vast quantities of munitions coming from the same money, but this saves many lives that would otherwise be expendable. Watching our Army's slow progress on the Western front, as Nazi resistance stiffens all along the line, we know that the war is not yet won. This is a final appeal to those who may not yet have subscribed for bonds to do so now.

Practically all our members are working and enjoying fair earnings. They should buy as many stamps and bonds as they can spare for the purpose of helping the government finance the war and give our boys the weapons they must have to bring the war to a successful conclusion. At the same time, they will be building up a reserve fund which will help them in case of future adversity. No matter how rosy the prospects may seem, we must always bear in mind the hazards of human life. All of us must save, and there is no better saving than more secure investment than war bonds.

### Day's Pay Booked

At our last membership meeting, we referred to the Boston convention's decision to contribute our day's work for the ILGWU War Relief Fund, out of which contributions are made to such organizations as the American Red Cross, the USO, British, Russian and Chinese Relief, etc.

The cutters in the various branches of the underwear industry, in conjunction with the other crafts, have already worked on a Saturday and contributed their earnings to the fund. Other branches will follow suit in the near future.

The cloak industry has set a tentative date, Saturday, Feb. 3, for this purpose. Together with their fellow-workers in other crafts, the cutters will work on that day. Out of their total earnings (including overtime) they will contribute \$12 to the fund, retaining the balance for themselves. The same payments will be made by the operators and pattern makers and the other crafts will pay proportionate amounts. Members will receive a stamp in their books signifying that they have made their full contribution.

### Sympathy for Suffering

The decision of the convention last May was unanimous, indicating the desire of the great body of us to help over the country to live up to their spirit of social responsibility. Mindful, patriotic citizens, determined to help bring the sick, the wounded, the crippled, the penniless and the suffering people of the world, that is the spirit of our International, the spirit of compassion and the practical understanding to translate that spirit into effective action. I am sure that every one of us, as well as every other person, will respond to this appeal with the sense of dedication that springs from a deep human

sympathy with those who out of their measureless despair and suffering, cry out for our helping hand.

### Piece-Goods Still Tight

In the shops production of spring garments is well under way. There is practically full employment in all branches of the industry. However, the tight supply situation in piece-goods and linings continues to be an uncertain factor. Let us hope it will not affect the favorable character of the season which got off to such a highly auspicious start. We don't want it said that the season came in like a lion and went away like a lamb.

### Soldier's Message

Local 10 recently received a letter from Jerry Ansel, son of our business agent, Philip Ansel. He wrote from France, as follows:

"It was with the greatest of pleasure and appreciation that I received

### Lieut. Novick's Folks Give Special Thanks On His Tokyo Rescue



LIEUT. LAWRENCE NOVICK

Thanksgiving Day this year was a genuine holiday in the life of the Novicks. Aside from their right to enjoy the blessings of American freedom, the day was made memorable for them through an unexpected radio flash which brought sudden, dramatic and splendid news about Lieut. Lawrence Novick, now of the Air Corps but before that a member of Local 89, Garment Clerks' Union, employed as a piece-goods man at the Loma Dress shop, New York City.

A short time ago Lieut. Novick spent a brief Epiphany with his wife and parents. After he departed there had been a complete blackout of news from him. This went on for several weeks, with anxious moments among his relatives. Then, one night on the eve of the holiday, Novick's family, listening to the radio, suddenly heard the announcer break in with a thrilling report:

"We interrupt this program," he said, "to bring you a special bulletin from Saigon. A U. S. destroyer has rescued the crew of a Supermarine that crashed in the Pacific on Friday after bombing Tokyo. Among the rescued men were Lieut. Lawrence Novick, 26, bombardier.

Other names were mentioned, but the Novicks didn't hear them. Other news was recounted, but the Novicks were in no mood to listen. For them there was one name and one fact, and that was cause enough for profound and solemn joy. The friends and co-workers of Lieut. Novick share it with them.

### ATTENTION Members LOCAL 10

### NEXT MEETING

Monday, Jan. 29  
Right After Work  
MANHATTAN  
CENTER  
34th St. & 8th Ave.

the package you sent to me. It makes me feel that he is not forgotten.

"I've seen a lot of this mixed-up world of ours and have learned a lot. The most important thing I learned was to appreciate that I'm an American and that America is my home. I come back, I'll be a much better citizen than when I left. I only hope it won't be too far off. I am well and have no complaints."

We can only say, "Good luck, and the same for all your comrades. We echo your hope for a safe return home—soon."

### SPIRIT OF DR. PRICE SHOWN IN SPREAD OF HEALTH CENTER WORK

The Union Health Center's annual report for 1943, published last May in time for the Boston convention of the ILGWU, transcends the limits of an ordinary institutional survey intended largely for the eye of the professional or the student of social services. Dr. Leo Price, director of the institution, has managed to cram within its 100 pages not only a wealth of charts, diagrams and tables but a group of extremely readable short stories which lift the curtain on the Center's origins, show its year-by-year development and outline its plans and programs to keep in step with the steadily increasing demands on its services.

This neat little review, a report dedicated by Director Leo Price to the memory of his father, Dr. George M. Price, the founder of the Union Health Center, a gesture that is as appropriate as it is touching. It can hardly be denied that if not for the unbending determination of Dr. George M. Price to save the Center and all who relied during the perilous years from 1923 to 1933 this institution could have scarcely survived. What he has would have meant to the mass of ILGWU members in New York City can only be appreciated in the light of the fact that in 1943 its total number of visitors reached 136,185, of which 64,436 were medical visits.

National health care and community medical aid in recent years have taken a dominant position in the country's social security agenda. It is not extravagant hope today to assume that, besides our understanding, nation-wide health insurance measures are on the way to reality in the foreseeable future. In the meantime, it is well to remember that the path of the movement to the great cause of a healthier and happier America has been hard and thorny. Such institutions as our own Union Health Center have been among the most vigorous trail-blazers of medical care for the masses.

Let your answer to bombs be bonds.

### New Orleans ILG Played Host



"295," cub local of the Southeastern region, played host to ILGWU delegates from all over the country attending the American Federation of Labor convention in New Orleans, last month. Shown above are delegation chiefs, First Vice President Luigi Antonini and President David Dubinsky with Beulah Irwin, area organizer of the region, and Vice President John S. Martin, director of the Southeastern district.



By PAULINE M. NEWMAN

### The Davis Report

The movement for health insurance for all the people is gaining momentum despite vigorous opposition from certain well-organized sources. Every day we hear of new plans to meet the pressing problem of providing decent medical care for those in need of it. Some of these plans

carry too much of a commercial taint; others are promising, and still others have nothing at all in their favor. Nevertheless, such plans symbolize an awareness that a health insurance problem does exist, which in itself is encouraging. The latest plan to be announced is one sponsored by a group of experts headed by Dr. Michael Davis, a veteran student and advocate of health insurance for the masses.

Dr. Davis states: "The men and women forming this health program conference have declared significantly from previous health proposals in making the union of both medical and financial aims their chief consideration."

"They have evolved a plan that would not only make it much easier to pay the costs of medical care but would also keep the quality of care high, so that it would be worth paying for. They urge the medical profession and the public to join forces in putting plans into action on a nation-wide scale."

Dr. Davis points out other important factors. "The needs of rural areas and of people too poor to join any contributory health insurance plan are recognized in the conference proposal," he says. "Full steps are also taken to safeguard the status of physicians and the quality of care, and to encourage group practice as the most efficient and economical way of supplying medical service."

Some of the people on the Davis committee inspire confidence and hope that a solution worthy of the problem will be found. Our own hope is that if and when a satisfactory plan is found it will include preventive medicine. Without it, no plan can be adequate and satisfactory.

### Fall River's Health Center

Our union in Fall River opened its own Union Health Center this week, with ceremonies that drew

such an important occasion. We wish to extend our congratulations and best wishes to the ILGWU leaders and members in Fall River on their excellent program concerning that most valuable asset—their health.

### The Needle In Your Finger

Picking your finger with a pin may not seem hazardous. Actually, it can be very dangerous. Fortunately, the consequences are not always serious, but that is largely a matter of luck. Don't take chances. "Brother, Can You Spare A Finger," the new folder issued by the ILGWU Educational Department, tells how to prevent accidents in the shop, and thus avoid pain and loss of time and pay. I trust that all shop chairladies and chairmen will see to it that this leaflet is widely distributed among our membership. It deserves the close attention of each and every one of our people in the industry.

### Philadelphia J. Council Honors Sec'y Rosa Wilkins

Rosa D. Wilkins, secretary of the Philadelphia J. Council, was given a dinner by the executive boards of Locals 79 and 246, which comprise the Council, on Dec. 5 in recognition of her many years of association with the union.

All ILGWU affiliates in Philadelphia were represented. Vice Pres. Samuel Orto greeted Miss Wilkins in the name of the entire Philadelphia ILGWU. Louis Bulkin, Joint Council manager, presented her with a war bond. The speakers stressed the point that Miss Wilkins had given realistic evidence of her patriotism in donating blood ten times to the Red Cross Blood Bank of Philadelphia.

Buy bonds till it hurts—the only way.

# JUSTICE

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## THE ILGWU AT NEW ORLEANS

Of the half-dozen resolutions which the ILGWU delegation, headed by President David Dubinsky, presented for consideration to the 64th annual convention of the American Federation of Labor at New Orleans last month, substantially all were adopted. Two of them—on the International Federation of Trade Unions and on labor unity—were among the few widely discussed topics at the convention.

The "re-establishment of free trade unions, in liberated lands," it is becoming clear, will not be an easy matter, not as easy as many had thought some time ago. Aside from the economic dislocation, which in itself is a factor of hindrance to free, democratic labor organization, this move for reviving the trade unions in the lands freed from the Nazi yoke is likely to run into conflict with political influences which would endeavor to wean labor away from the democratic fold. This clash between the free trade unions and the totalitarian elements has already shown up in Italy, Belgium, France and other lands. The old device of "divide and rule"—cleverly masked by slogans of "unity"—is again in full employment on the European labor front.

In this connection, the decision by the New Orleans convention to ask the International Federation of Trade Unions to summon a world trade union meeting at the earliest possible time is of compelling significance. Since the war, the IFTU has been a skeleton organization confined to liaison work and the salvaging of human wreckage in the lands inundated by the evil Nazi flood. The reassembling of the IFTU, with which the American Federation of Labor is affiliated, preferably in the United States, would go a considerable way toward strengthening it as a central world labor organization after the war, and even before it comes to an end.

The "labor unity" resolution proposed by the ILGWU, and supported by the delegates of the Typographical Union, divided itself in two parts, one calling for efforts to renew negotiations with the CIO and the other to renew an invitation to the United Mine Workers to rejoin the AFL.

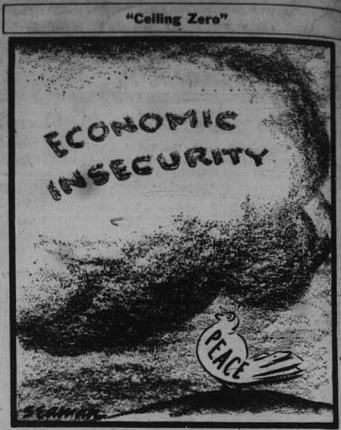
The convention adopted a suggestion that the Executive Council "explore every avenue which would lead to unity" with the CIO. Yet, both the delegates as they voted for it and the newsmen as they listened to the proposal could not fail to sense that it was largely a perfunctory gesture and that reconciliation with the CIO is more remote today than ever. In contrast to this mood, the tenor of the discussion on the miners' union was that the Federation should "let bygones be bygones," that it should "overlook the personality of John L. Lewis" in the interest of the greater good, emphasizing with refreshing candor the thought that while individual leaders of labor will come and go, the union will keep on as a beneficial force in the lives of the coal diggers and in the labor movement.

Of the other ILGWU resolutions, the one calling for the repeal of the Smith-Connally Act before the war ends was favorably acted upon and another urging the expansion and improvement of organized labor's public relations made considerable headway as the convention voted to enlarge the Executive Council's Press Committee and to widen the scope of its current publicity program. This, however, is still a far cry from the establishment of an effective public relations department which the ILGWU resolution sought and which it considered especially vital in the present stage of organized labor's prevailing moods and attitudes in large sections of the general American community.

A brief summary of this third AFL wartime convention may be stated as follows:

It was a down-to-earth, realistic proceeding, without pretense to glamour, yet with its weather-eye steadily focused on the main events in America's economic and social scene. It moved, as could have been expected, within the over-all compulsions of the war climate and win-the-war priorities. With seven million organized workers, representing nearly one-sixth of the country's population, already in its fold, it, nevertheless, seemed to move with super-care as if hushbanding its strength against the unpredictable events of the post-war days.

As always, it provided the freest discussion platform in all American labor, barring none. And while it changed neither leadership nor basic attitudes, it never lost sight of its paramount objective—to serve as the backbone of the free, unfettered and unabridged democratic trade union movement in America.



## NICKS and NITCHES

By M. D. D.

LET'S TRY to settle this one — WHO ELECTED FDR?

The PAC CIO's political wonder-child, without a trace of modesty on its baby face, says it did the trick. The PAC's registration whoop-up in a number of vital states, its bigwigs assert, tipped the scales and supplied the margin of victory. These calculations, naturally, leave out of reckoning the fact that the PAC also supplied the Republican high command with its most effective and most venomous weapon throughout the campaign.

Now comes the "Transiers" Journal" with the claim that Dan Tobin and his teamsters are "more responsible for the election of Roosevelt than any other influence in America." It fell to the lot of President Tobin, says the Transiers' organ, by virtue of the fact that he was chairman of the Labor Division of the National Democratic Committee, to cement the votes of the 7,000,000 AFL members and their families for President Roosevelt.

Then, of course, there is Bob Hannigan with a claim that he, too, had something to do with the outcome of the election. The Hannigan lead bears all the earmarks of legitimacy though while the campaign was still on. I recall some griping and dissenting voices. The only party which is not claiming exclusive credit for FDR's victory seems to be New York's Liberal Party, which urged 350,000 votes in its first try. This conflict of opinion, I am afraid may go down in history as the Great Controversy of the 1944 Campaign. Unless all hands are ready to agree, by way of compromise, that the person most responsible for the election of FDR was one Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Or, perhaps, a small-time guy by the name of Thomas E. Dewey. Give it a thought.

IT SEEMS to me that attitudes toward a post-war German labor draft, sharply contrasted in pronouncements by Presidents William Green and Philip Murray, of the AFL and CIO respectively, are being put out of focus by getting the matter mixed up with the general problem of a "hard" or "soft" peace for defeated Nazism. It should be a matter of common agreement that the German military and industrial treasuries who plunged the world into the bloodiest bath in history must not be given another chance to repeat. Thus, if we re-member the lessons of the First World War, can hardly be attained without proper control of post-war industry and employment in Germany for a considerable period after hostilities end.

Democratic elements in Germany, whatever they may amount to or wherever they may be found after the war, should be given

an opportunity to cooperate in such control as a plain test of their intentions to live peacefully with other nations in the years to come. One can hardly believe that either France, Russia, Poland or Belgium would want millions of German laborers to flood their countries after the war. They may. However, demand quotas of German technicians for the rebuilding of factories, railways, homes and communications is arduous since ruled by Nazi arms. We Americans, whose homes, lands and economy have not suffered directly from the unspeakable Nazi barbarities, it occurs to me, could very well leave this point to the judgment of victim nations.

CIGARETTES, cigars, matches—and now chickens.

And the end is not yet in sight. The over-all excuse, sure enough, is "everything for the boys." Belief is obligatory, too, and even the lifting of a doubting eyebrow is deemed unparliamentary.

On the other hand, information trickles in through G.I. letters that cigarettes are hard to obtain in Army stores, some even ask, ironically enough, that the home folk send them a carton or two for Christmas. Just try and get it! Still, witnesses and experts told the House Agriculture Committee the other day that the United States has ample stocks of cured leaf tobacco to meet demands for the next eighteen months, not counting the current crop.

You might be interested to know that the "official" version of the causes for the shortage include "over-buying" by individual consumers, "maldistribution" caused by population shifts, lack of sufficient cigarette-making machinery, and sundry others. The "rational" reaction of the man in the street is that John Q. Public is being held up by manipulators, jobbers and black-market artists and that the game is being played for OPA sanction of a general freeze in cigarette prices, after which the smoking weed will show up in the retail pipelines in sufficient volume. In the cigar end of the business, this trick is already working since the OPA allowed a sizeable price jack-up last week.

The poultry slump in the East, however, is even more discouraging in the face of a frozen scarcity of steaks and chops of every description, lasting now for nearly two years. In New Jersey a group of poultry dealers who closed up their shops issued an appeal to the public to buy no chickens "until this entire price situation is adjusted to the satisfaction of dealers and consumers." Clearly, this is a sincere plea to force the OPA to crash through the poultry ceiling. Will it succeed? We ask—what's there to stop it?